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# Checking Out Your Gateway Solo 1150

1

## Tips & Tricks



To access the contents of this manual while you are traveling, download the manual from [www.gateway.com/support/manlib/](http://www.gateway.com/support/manlib/).





# Top



Component	Description
Power indicator light	Lights up when the notebook is turned on and shows notebook power status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ LED on – notebook is ON.</li><li>▪ LED off – notebook is OFF or in Hibernate.</li><li>▪ LED flashing – notebook is in Standby.</li></ul>
Battery charge indicator light	The battery is installed. The LED shows the battery activity and status. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Green – battery is fully charged.</li><li>▪ Orange – battery is being charged.</li><li>▪ Red – battery is low.</li><li>▪ Blinking and red – battery is very low.</li><li>▪ Blinking and orange – battery is malfunctioning.</li></ul>

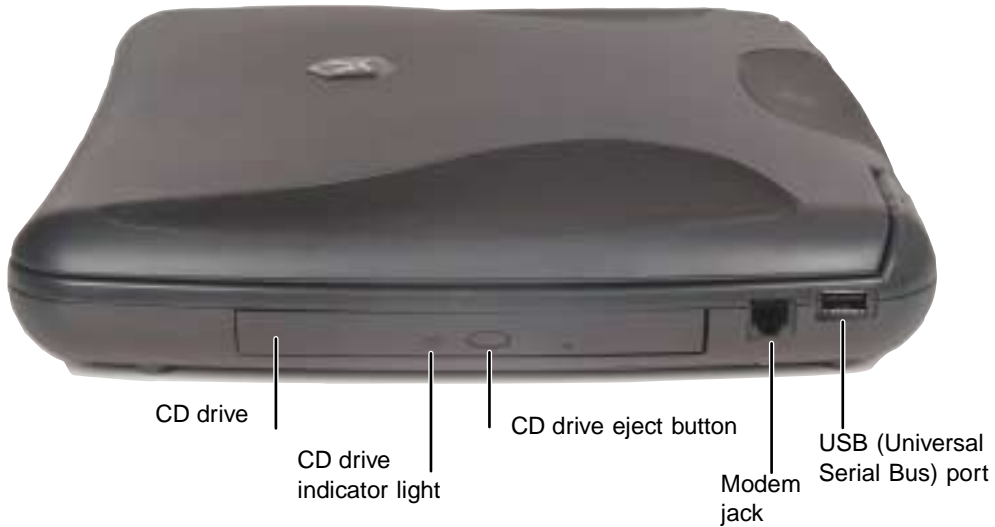
# Front





Cover release latch

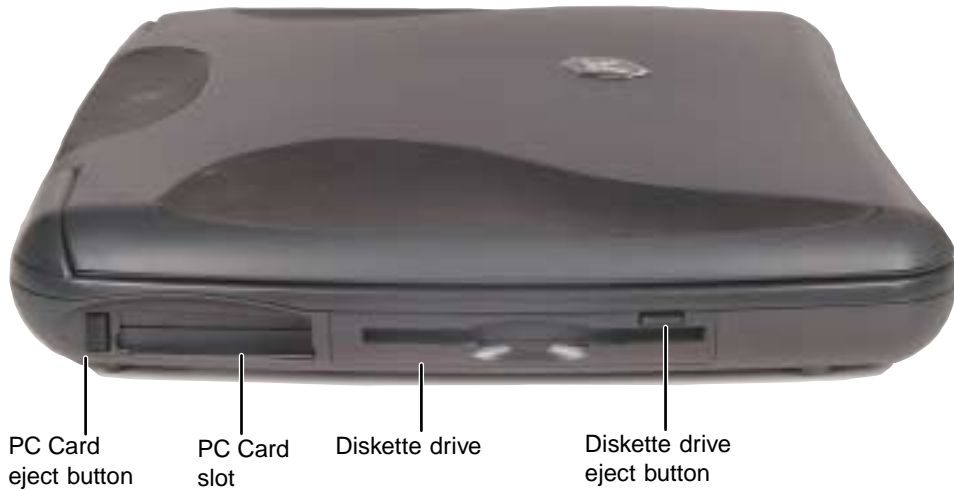
Component	Description
Cover release latch	Open notebook cover by pressing the release latch.


# Right



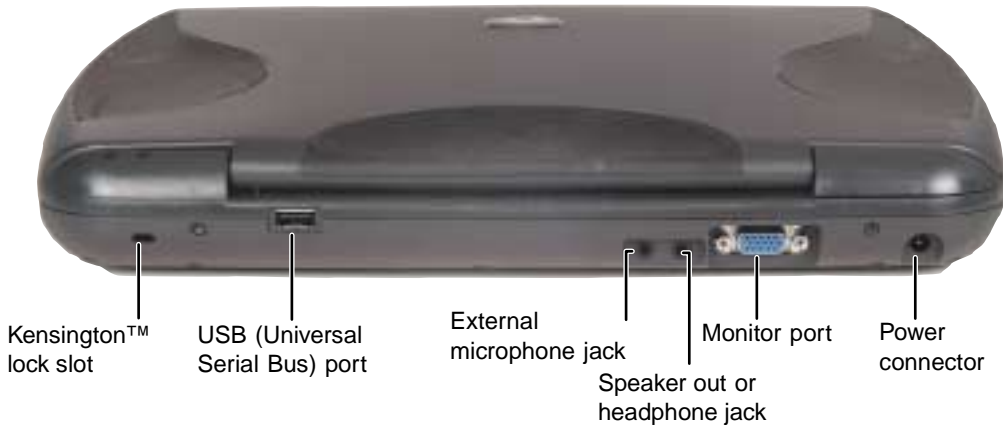
Component	Icon	Description
CD drive		Insert CDs into this drive.
CD drive indicator light		Lights up when the computer is accessing the CD drive.
CD drive eject button		Press the eject button to eject the disc tray from the drive.
Modem jack		Plug a modem into this jack.
USB (Universal Serial Bus) port		Plug a USB device (such as a USB Iomega™ Zip™ drive) into this port.







# Left



Component	Icon	Description
PC Card eject button		Press the eject button to remove a PC Card from the PC Card slot. For more information, see “Adding PC Cards” on page 116
PC Card slot		Insert one Type I, II, III, or Zoom Video PC Card into this slot. For more information, see “Adding PC Cards” on page 116
Diskette drive		Insert a standard 3.5-inch diskette into this drive. (Available only on some models.)
Diskette drive eject button		Press the eject button to remove a diskette from the drive.


# Back



Component	Icon	Description
Kensington™ lock slot		Secure your computer to an object by connecting a Kensington cable lock to this slot.
USB (Universal Serial Bus) port		Plug a USB device (such as a USB Iomega™ Zip™ drive) into this port.
External microphone jack		Plug a microphone into this jack.
Speaker out or headphone jack		Plug external speakers or headphones into this jack.
Monitor port		Plug the monitor into this port.
Power connector		Plug the AC power adapter cable into this connector.

# Bottom



Component	Icon	Description
Hard drive bay		Remove the bay cover to replace the hard drive.
Battery release latch		Slide to release battery.
Battery		Insert battery into this bay.
System identification label		Find the product model number and serial number on this label.
Certificate of Authenticity label		Find the registration key for the operating system on this label.
Memory bay		Install a memory module into this bay.

# Identifying your model

The label on the bottom of your computer contains information that identifies your notebook model. Technical support will need this information if you call for assistance. Label information varies by model.



# Accessories

Gateway offers accessories that can help you make the most of using your notebook.

## **Batteries and automobile/airplane power adapters**

If you run your notebook on battery power for extended periods, you may want to buy an additional battery so that you can swap batteries when necessary.

With an automobile/airplane power adapter, you can save battery power by plugging your notebook into an automobile cigarette lighter or an airplane in-flight power receptacle.

## **Carrying cases**

Gateway has large-capacity carrying cases if you need additional space for accessories or supplies.

## **External devices**

You can attach an external monitor to your notebook or USB devices such as a keyboard, mouse, or printer.

## **Memory**

Large programs, such as multimedia games or graphics programs, use a lot of memory. If your programs are running more slowly than you think they should, try adding more memory.

## **Printers**

You can attach almost any type of USB printer to your computer. The most common types are inkjet and laser printers, which print in color or black and white.

Inkjet printers and cartridges are relatively inexpensive, but usually they are slower than laser printers. Using an inkjet color printer, you can print pictures, banners, and greeting cards, as well as documents.

Laser printers and cartridges are more expensive, but usually they print much faster than inkjet printers. Laser printers are better than inkjet printers when you are printing large documents.





# 2

# Getting Started

This chapter explains how to:

- Connect the AC power adapter
- Start your notebook
- Turn off your notebook
- Identify status indicators
- Use your keyboard
- Use your touchpad and external mouse

# Connecting the AC adapter

You can run your notebook using an AC adapter or the notebook battery. The battery was shipped to you partially charged. You should use the AC adapter right away to fully charge the battery.

## Important



If the battery is not fully charged before you use your notebook on battery power for the first time, the battery life may be much shorter than you expect. If the battery life seems short even after being charged for 24 hours, the battery may need to be recalibrated. For information, see “Recalibrating the battery” on page 139.



## To connect the AC adapter:

- 1 Connect the power cord to the AC adapter, then plug it in to a wall power outlet.



## Warning



Do not attempt to disassemble the AC adapter. The AC adapter has no user-replaceable or user-serviceable parts inside. The AC adapter has dangerous voltages that can cause serious injury or death. Contact Gateway about returning defective AC adapters.

- 2 Connect the AC adapter to your notebook's power connector.



The battery charging indicator light turns on. If the battery charging indicator light does not turn on, disconnect the adapter from your notebook and repeat Step 2.

- 3 When you finish using your notebook, turn the notebook off and leave the notebook connected to AC power for at least 24 hours.

**Warning**



Do not attempt to disassemble the AC adapter. The AC adapter has no user-replaceable or user-serviceable parts inside. The AC adapter has dangerous voltages that can cause serious injury or death. Contact Gateway about returning defective AC adapters.



# Protecting from power source problems

During a power surge, the voltage level of electricity coming into your computer can increase to far above normal levels and cause data loss or system damage. Protect your computer and peripherals by connecting them to a *surge protector*, which will absorb voltage surges and prevent them from reaching your computer.

## Warning



High voltages can enter your computer through both the power cord and the modem connection. Protect your computer by using a surge protector. If you have a telephone modem, use a surge protector that has a modem jack. If you have a cable modem, use a surge protector that has an antenna/cable TV jack. During an electrical storm, unplug both the surge protector and the modem.

# Starting your notebook



To start the notebook:

- 1 Open your notebook by pressing the latch on the front of your notebook to the right and lifting the LCD panel.
- 2 Press the power button located above the keyboard.



The power button is preset to On/Off mode. However, you can also set it to function in Standby/Resume mode. For more information, see “Changing power modes” on page 93.

- 3 If you are starting your computer for the first time, follow the on-screen instructions to set up your computer.



# Waking up your notebook

## Warning



Replace the power cord if it becomes damaged. The replacement cord must be of the same type and voltage rating as the original cord or the notebook may be damaged.

When you have not used your computer for several minutes, it will go into a power-saving mode called *Standby*. While in Standby, the computer screen darkens and the power indicator light flashes. When you are ready to use your computer, “wake” it up by pressing the power button. For more information on changing power-saving settings or changing the power button settings, see “Managing Power” on page 87.

# Turning off your notebook



## To turn off your notebook:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Shut Down**. The Shut Down Windows dialog box opens.
- 2 Select **Shut Down**.
- 3 Click **OK**. Windows shuts down and turns off your notebook.

## Important



If for some reason you cannot use the Shut down option in Windows to turn off your notebook, press the power button for about five seconds.



# Status indicators





---

**This light turns on...**      **When...**

---



Caps Lock is turned on.

---



Num Lock is turned on.

---



Scroll Lock is turned on.

---



The notebook is accessing the diskette drive.

---



The notebook is accessing the hard drive.

---



The notebook is accessing the CD drive.



---

# Keyboard











Your notebook features a full-size keyboard that has the full functionality of a desktop computer keyboard. Many of the keys have been assigned alternate functions, including shortcut keys for Windows, function keys for specific system operations, and the Pad Lock keys for the numeric keypad.

You can attach an external keyboard to the notebook using the USB ports. You do not need to shut down the notebook to connect the USB keyboard.

Component	Icon	Description
Function keys		Press these green-colored keys to perform actions in programs. For example, pressing F1 may open help. Each program uses different function keys for different purposes. Refer to the program documentation to find out more about the function key actions.
Numeric keypad		Use these keys to type numbers when Pad Lock is turned on. Press FN+F9 to turn on the numeric keypad.
Navigation keys		Press these keys to move the cursor to the beginning of a line, to the end of a line, up the page, down the page, to the beginning of a document, or to the end of a document.
FN key		Press the FN key in combination with a green-colored function key (such as F4 or F10) to perform a specific action.
Windows key		Press to open the Windows <b>Start</b> menu. These keys can also be used in combination with other keys to open utilities like F (Search utility), R (Run utility), and E (Explorer utility).
Application key		Press for quick access to shortcut menus and help assistants in Windows.
Arrow keys		Press these keys to move the cursor up, down, right, or left.

# Using function keys

When you press an FN key and a Function key at the same time, the notebook performs an action such as displaying the power status, turning on the Scroll Lock, and adjusting the brightness of the screen

Press and hold FN while pressing this Function key...	To...
	Display the power status pop-up menu.
	Toggle the notebook screen between the LCD, an external monitor, or both at the same time. A monitor must be plugged into the monitor port on the notebook.
	Enter Standby mode. Press the power button to resume from Standby mode.
	Turn on Pad Lock so you can use the numeric keypad. Press this key combination again to turn off Pad Lock. The Pad Lock status indicator lights up while this function is turned on.
	Pause text scrolling. (This function is only available in some programs.) The Scroll Lock status indicator lights up when this function is turned on.
	Pause text scrolling. Press any key to continue scrolling. (This function is only available in some programs.)
	Stop the currently running DOS program. (This function is only available in some programs.)
	Increase the volume.

---

Press and hold **FN** while  
pressing this Function key...

To...



Decrease the volume.



Mute the volume.



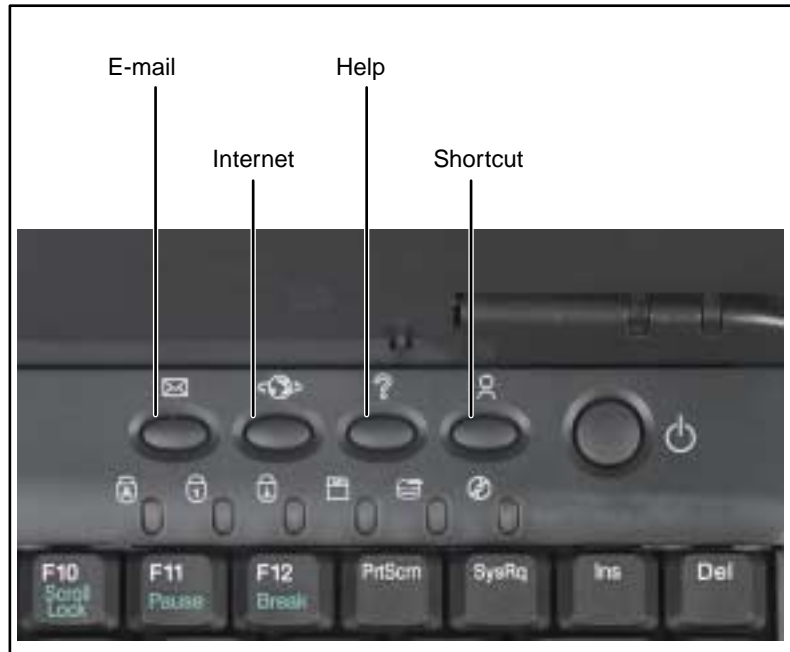
Increase the contrast of the display.







Decrease the contrast of the display.

---

# Using multi-function buttons



---

Button	Icon	Press to...
E-mail		Open your e-mail program.
Internet		Open your Web browser.
Help		Open online help.
Shortcut		Open the program you assign to this key.

---

For information on programming the multi-function buttons, see “Programming the multi-function buttons” on page 109.

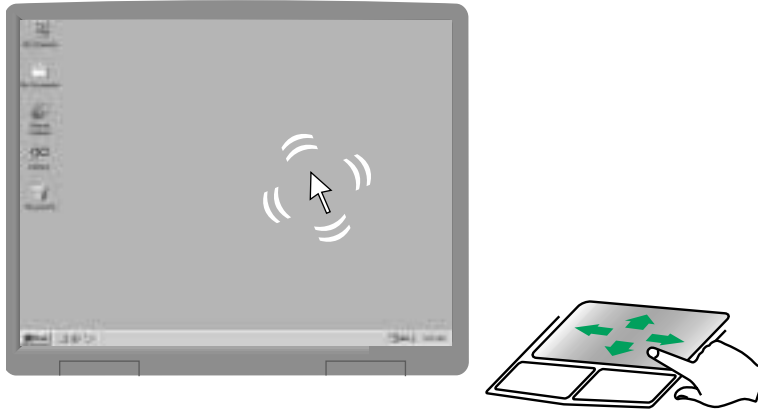
# Using the EZ Pad touchpad

The EZ Pad™ consists of a touchpad and two buttons.





When you move your finger on the touchpad, the *pointer* (arrow) on the screen moves in the same direction.



You can use the EZ-Pad *left* and *right* buttons below the touchpad to select objects.

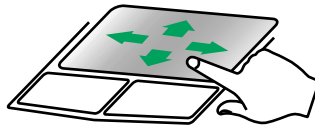
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To...

Do this...

---

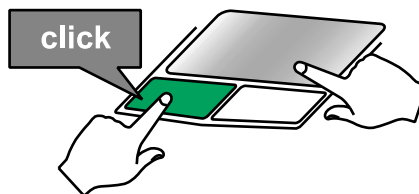
Move the pointer on the screen.



Move your finger around on the touchpad. If you run out of space on your touchpad and need to move the pointer farther, lift your finger, move it to the middle of the touchpad, then continue moving your finger.

---

Select an object on the screen.



---

Position the pointer over the object. Press the left button below the touchpad once. This action is called *clicking*.

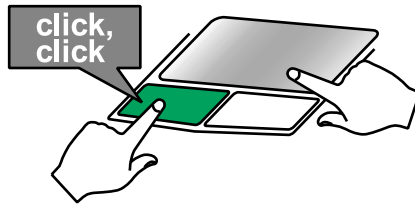
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To...

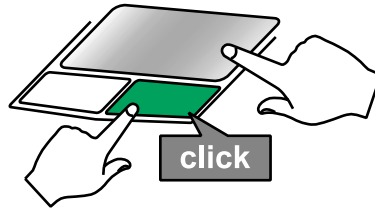
Do this...

Start a program or open a file or folder.



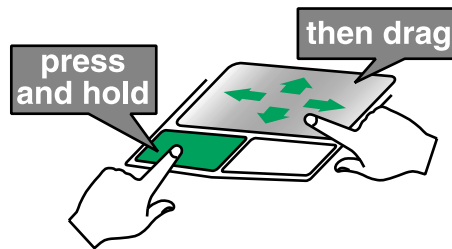
Position the pointer over the object. Press the left button below the touchpad twice in rapid succession. This action is called *double-clicking*.

Access a shortcut menu or find more information about an object on the screen.



Position the pointer over the object. Quickly press and release the right button once. This action is called *right-clicking*.

Move an object on the screen.



Position the pointer over the object. Press the left button and hold it down, then use the touchpad to move (drag) the object to the appropriate part of the screen. Release the button to drop the object where you want it.



# Windows Basics

# 3

Read this chapter to get basic information on how to:

- Work on the Windows desktop
- Manage files and folders
- Work with documents
- Use shortcuts

**HelpSpot**

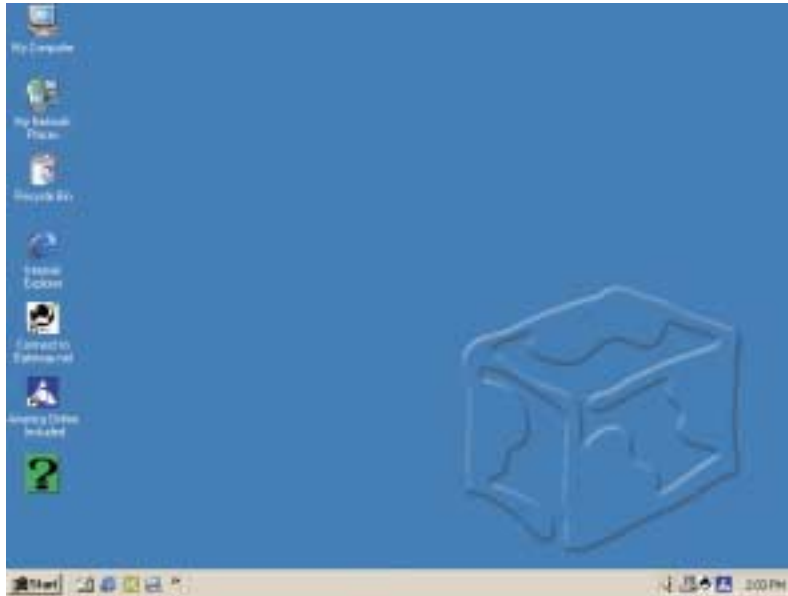


For more information on using Windows, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.

# About the Windows environment








After your computer starts, the first screen you see is the Windows *desktop*. The desktop is like the top of a real desk. Think of the desktop as your personalized work space where you open programs and perform other tasks.

Your desktop may be different from the example shown below, depending on how your computer is set up.



# Desktop items

*Icons* are graphic representations of objects on the desktop that you select and open, such as a drive, folder, file, or program. *Buttons* are graphic representations of controls that you use to open windows or apply changes.

Desktop icons, buttons, and elements	Description
 My Computer	The <i>My Computer icon</i> provides access to drives and other computer controls. Double-click the <b>My Computer</b> icon to view the drives and folders on your computer.
 My Documents	<i>My Documents</i> is a folder where you store your personal files. You can create other folders to save files in, but My Documents is easy to find because it is on the desktop. Double-click <b>My Documents</b> to view your personal files and folders.
 Recycle Bin	The <i>Recycle Bin</i> is where files, folders, and programs that you discarded are stored. You must empty the Recycle Bin to permanently delete them from your computer. For instructions on how to use the Recycle Bin, see “Deleting files and folders” on page 41.
 Internet Explorer	Microsoft Internet Explorer is a program called a <i>browser</i> that lets you view Web sites and Web pages on the Internet. Double-click this icon to open the browser.
 Gateway.net	The <i>Gateway.net</i> and <i>America Online Included icons</i> let you connect to the Gateway.net or America Online ISP (Internet Service Provider). Double-click either the <b>Gateway.net</b> or <b>America Online Included</b> icon to dial one of the services.
 America Online Included	
	Gateway has provided an easily accessible interactive guide called <i>HelpSpot</i> . This guide is designed to provide help information and let you quickly discover and use the features of your computer. Double-click the <b>HelpSpot</b> icon to begin.

---

**Desktop icons, buttons, and elements****Description**

---



The *Start button* provides access to programs, files, help for Windows and other programs, and computer tools and utilities.

Click the **Start** button, then open a file or program by clicking (*selecting*) an item on the menu that opens.



The *taskbar* is the bar at the bottom of the screen containing the **Start** button on the left and a clock on the right. Other buttons on the taskbar represent programs that are running.

Click a program's button on the taskbar to activate the program's window.

---

# Window items

When you double-click the icon for a drive, folder, files, or program, a *window* opens on the desktop. This example shows the **Local Disk (C:)** window, which opens after double-clicking the **Local Disk (C:)** icon in the My Computer window.





Every program window looks a little different because each has its own menus, icons, and controls. Most windows include these items:

Window item	Description
A blue title bar with a small icon on the left and the text "Local Disk (C:)" in white.	The <i>title bar</i> is the horizontal bar at the top of a window that shows the name of the program.
Three window control buttons: minimize (a horizontal line), maximize (a square), and close (an 'X').	Clicking the <i>minimize button</i> reduces the active window to a button on the taskbar. Clicking the program button in the taskbar opens the window again.
Three window control buttons: maximize (a square), restore down (a square with a horizontal line), and close (an 'X').	Clicking the <i>maximize button</i> expands the active window to fit the entire screen. Clicking the maximize button again restores the window to its former size.
A single window control button: close (an 'X').	Clicking the <i>close button</i> closes the active window or program.
A menu bar with the following items: File, Edit, View, Favorites, Tools, Help. Each item has a small letter underlined.	Clicking an item on the <i>menu bar</i> starts an action such as Print or Save.

# Using the Start menu

You can start programs, open files, customize your system, get help, search for files and folders, and more using the **Start** menu.

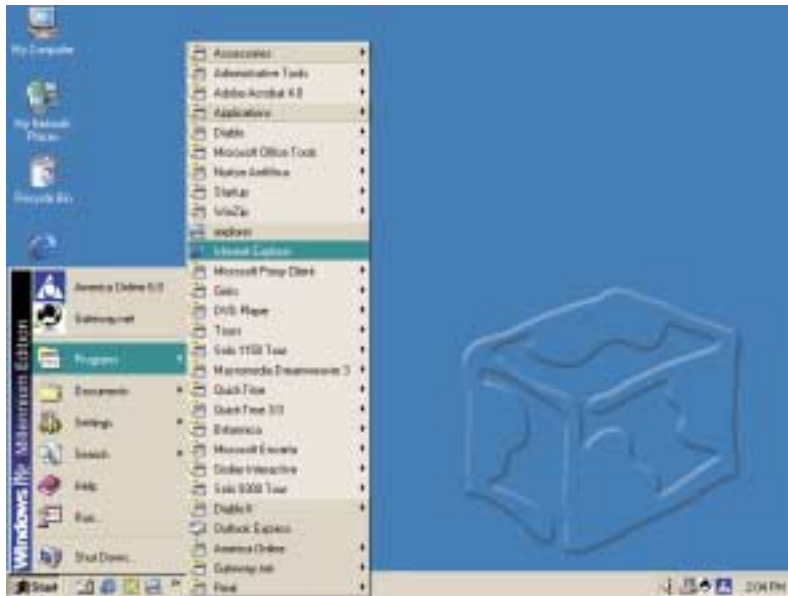


## To open the Start menu:

- Click the **Start** button on the lower left of the Windows desktop. The **Start** menu opens showing you the first level of menu items.



When you move the mouse pointer over any menu item that has an arrow next to it, another menu, or *submenu*, opens and reveals related files, programs, or commands. Click a file or program to open it.



# Working with files and folders

You can organize your files and programs to suit your preferences much like you would store information in a file cabinet. You can store these files in folders and copy, move, and delete the information just as you would reorganize and throw away information in a file cabinet.

## HelpSpot



For more information on working with files and folders, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.

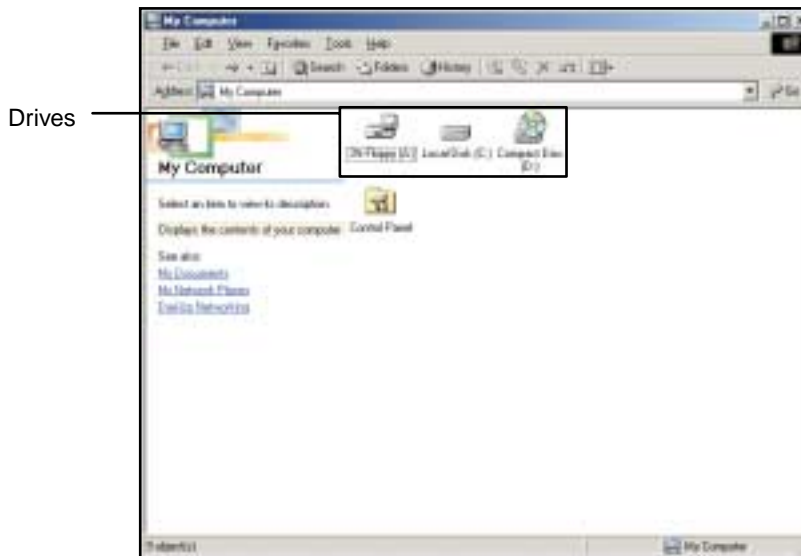
## About drives

*Drives* are like file cabinets because they hold files and folders. A computer almost always has more than one drive. Each drive has a letter, usually **Local Disk (C:)** for the hard drive and **3½ Floppy (A:)** for the diskette drive. You may also have more drives such as a CD drive.



To view the drives on your computer:

- Double-click the **My Computer** icon on your desktop.





## To see the files and folders on a drive:

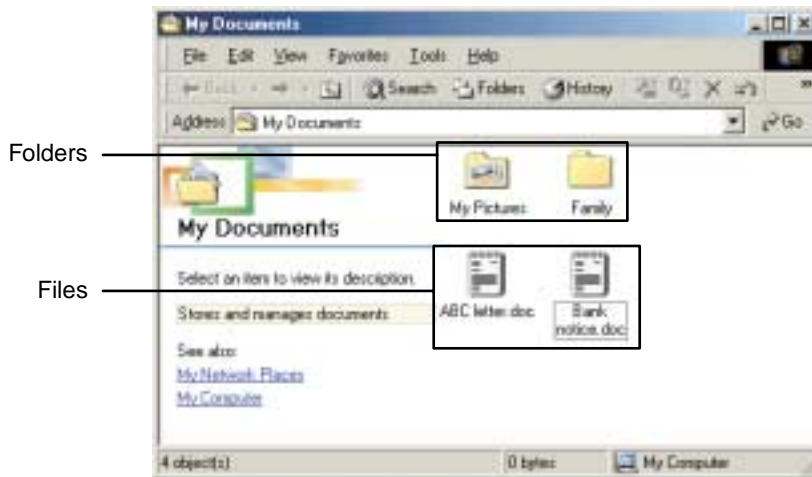
- Double-click the drive icon. If you do not see the contents of a drive after you double-click its icon, click **View the entire contents of this drive**.



# About folders and files

*Folders* are much like the folders in a file cabinet. They contain files and other folders.

*Files* are much like paper documents—letters, spreadsheets, and pictures—that you keep on your computer. In fact, all information on a computer is stored in files.



## To create a folder:

- 1 Double-click the **My Computer** icon on the desktop. The My Computer window opens.
- 2 Double-click the drive or folder, for example **3½ Floppy (A:)** or **Local Disk (C:)**, where you want to put the new folder.  
The drive or folder window opens. If you do not see the contents of the drive or folder, click **View the entire contents of [this drive or this folder]**.
- 3 Select **File**, then **New**, then **Folder**. The new folder is created.
- 4 Type a name for the folder, then press ENTER. The new folder name appears under the folder.



# Copying and moving files and folders

The skills you need to copy and move files are *copying*, *cutting*, and *pasting*.

When you *copy and paste* a selection, you place a *copy* of the file you selected on the Windows *clipboard*, which stores it. Then, when you decide what folder you want the copy to go in (the *destination* folder), you *paste* it there.

When you *cut and paste* a selection, you remove the file from its folder and place the file on the Windows clipboard. When you decide where you want the file to go, you paste it there.

## Important



The clipboard stores whatever you cut or copy until you cut or copy again. Then the clipboard contains the new information only. Therefore, you can paste copies of a file into more than one place, but as soon as you copy or cut a file again, the old file is deleted from the clipboard.



## To copy a file or folder to another folder:

- 1 Right-click the file or folder that you want to copy. A menu opens on the desktop.
- 2 Select **Copy** from the menu.
- 3 Open the destination folder.
- 4 With the pointer inside the destination folder, press the right touchpad button.
- 5 Select **Paste**. A copy of the file or folder appears in the new location.





### To move a file or folder to another folder:

- 1** Right-click the file or folder that you want to move. A menu opens on the desktop.
- 2** Select **Cut** from the menu.
- 3** Open the destination folder.
- 4** With the pointer inside the destination folder, press the right touchpad button.
- 5** Select **Paste**. The file or folder you moved appears in its new location and is removed from its old location.



# Deleting files and folders

When you throw away paper files and folders, you take them from the file cabinet and put them in a trash can. Eventually the trash can is emptied.

In Windows, you throw away files and folders by first moving them to Windows trash can, the *Recycle Bin*, where they remain until you decide to empty the bin.

You can recover any file in the Recycle Bin as long as the bin has not been emptied.



## To delete files or folders:

- 1 In My Computer or Windows Explorer, select the files or folders that you want to delete. For instructions on how to select multiple files and folders, see “Shortcuts” on page 52.
- 2 Select **File**, then **Delete**. Windows moves the files and folders to the Recycle Bin.



## To recover files or folders from the Recycle Bin:

- 1 Double-click the **Recycle Bin** icon. The Recycle Bin window opens listing the files and folders you have thrown away since you last emptied it.
- 2 Select the files or folders that you want to restore. For instructions on how to select multiple files and folders, see “Shortcuts” on page 52.
- 3 Select **File**, then **Restore**. Windows returns the deleted files or folders to their original locations.







## To empty the Recycle Bin:

### Caution



Emptying the Recycle Bin permanently erases any files or folders in the bin. These files cannot be restored.

- 1** Double-click the **Recycle Bin** icon on the desktop. The **Recycle Bin** window opens.
- 2** Select **File**, then **Empty Recycle Bin**. Windows asks you if you are sure that you want to empty the bin.
- 3** Click **Yes**. Windows permanently deletes all the files in the Recycle Bin.



# Browsing for files and folders

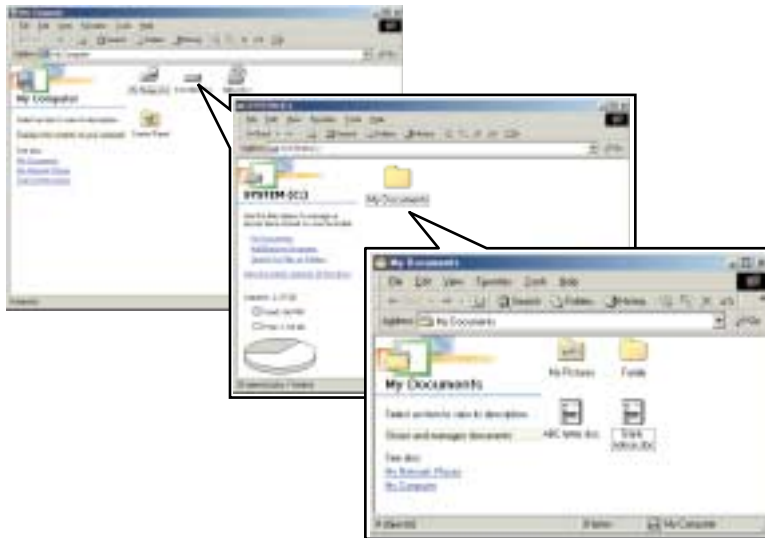
A file or folder that you need is rarely right on top of your Windows desktop. It is usually on a drive inside a folder that may be inside yet another folder, and so on.

Windows drives, folders, and files are organized in the same way as a real file cabinet in that they may have many levels (usually many more levels than a file cabinet, in fact). So you usually will have to search through levels of folders to find the file or folder that you need. This is called *browsing*.



## To browse for a file:

- 1 Double-click the **My Computer** icon on the desktop.
- 2 Double-click the drive or folder that you think contains the file or folder that you want to find.



- 3 Continue double-clicking folders and their subfolders until you find the file or folder you want. (If you do not see the contents of a folder, click **View the entire contents of this folder**.)



# Searching for files

If you are looking for a particular file or folder or a set of files or folders that have characteristics in common, but you do not remember where they are stored on your hard drive, you can use the Search utility in Windows Me to search by:

- Name or part of a name
- Creation date
- Modification date
- File type
- Text contained in the file
- Time period in which it was created or modified

You can also combine search criteria to refine searches.

Files and folders found using these utilities can be opened, copied, cut, renamed, or deleted directly from the list in the results window.

# Using the Search utility



To find files and folders using the Search utility:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Search**, then **For Files or Folders**. The search dialog box opens.



- 2 If you want to search by file or folder name, type in all or part of the file or folder name in the **Search for files or folders named:** box in the left pane of the window.
  - If you type all of the name, Search will list all files and folders of that name.
  - If you type part of the name, Search will list all of the file and folder names containing the letters you typed.



# Working with documents

Documents are commonly word processing files, spreadsheet files, or other similar files. The basic methods of creating, saving, opening, and printing a document apply to most of these types of files.

The following examples illustrate the concepts for creating, saving, opening, and printing a document in Microsoft® Word. Though these examples use Microsoft Word, similar procedures apply to other programs such as Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Works, and Microsoft Publisher.

For more information about using a program, select **Help** on the menu bar.

# Creating a new document

HelpSpot



For more information on creating a document, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



To create a new document:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Programs**, then **Microsoft Word**. Microsoft Word starts and a blank document opens.
- 2 Select **File**, then **New**. The New dialog box opens.



- 3 Click a tab for the type of document you want to create, select a document template style, then click **OK**. The document template opens.
- 4 Begin composing your document. Use the menus and toolbar buttons at the top of the window to format the document.



# Saving a document

After you create a document, you need to save it if you want to use it later.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on saving a document, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



**To save a document in Microsoft Word:**

- 1** Select **File**, then **Save**. The Save As dialog box opens.
- 2** In the **Save in** list, find the folder you plan to save the file in.
- 3** Type the new file name.



- 4** Click **Save**.





# Opening a document

To view, revise, or print an existing document, you need to open it. Open the document in the program it was created in.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on opening a document, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To open a document in Microsoft Word:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Programs**, then **Microsoft Word**. Microsoft Word starts and a blank document opens.
- 2 Select **File**, then **Open**.
- 3 In the **Look in** list, find the folder you want to open.



- 4 Double-click the document file name. The document opens.



# Printing a document

To print a document, you must have a printer connected to your computer or have access to a network printer. For more information about installing or using your printer, refer to the printer documentation.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on printing a document, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To print a document in Microsoft Word:

- 1 Make sure that the printer is turned on and loaded with paper.
- 2 Start Microsoft Word and open a document.
- 3 Select **File**, then **Print**. The Print dialog box opens.
- 4 Select the print options, then click **OK**. The document prints.



# Shortcuts

The following table shows a few shortcuts that you can use in Windows and almost all programs that run in Windows. For more information on Windows shortcuts, see your Windows or program documentation.

To...	Do this...
Copy a file, folder, text, or graphic	Select the item, then press CTRL + C.
Cut a file, folder, text, or graphic	Select the item, then press CTRL + X.
Paste a file, folder, text, or graphic	Select the item, then press CTRL + V.
Select multiple icons on the desktop	Click the first icon, press and hold down the CTRL key, then click each of the remaining icons that you want to select.
Select multiple items in a list or in an Explorer window	Click the first item, press and hold down the CTRL key, then click each of the remaining items.
Select multiple adjacent items in a list	Click the first item in the list, press and hold down the SHIFT key, then click the last item in the list.
Permanently delete a file or folder	Click the file or folder, then press SHIFT + DELETE. The file is permanently deleted and <b>is not stored in the Recycle Bin</b> .
Rename a file or folder	Select the file or folder, press F2, type the new name, then press ENTER.
Close the active window or program	Press ALT + F4.
Switch to a different file, folder, or running program	Press ALT + TAB.

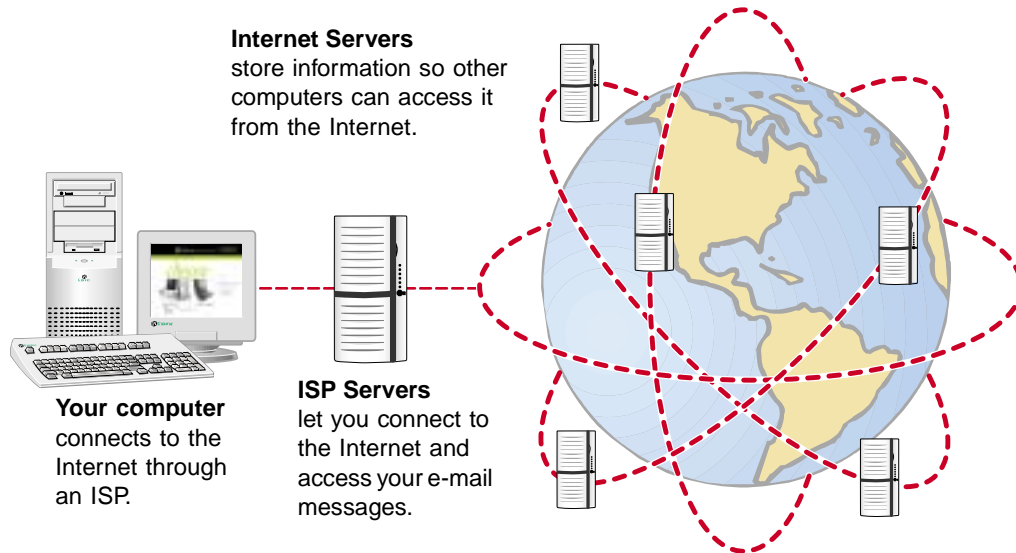
# Using the Internet

# 4

This chapter provides information about the Internet and the World Wide Web, and tells you how to set up Gateway.net<sup>SM</sup> or America Online<sup>®</sup> Internet services so that you can send and receive e-mail and access other Internet resources.

# Learning about the Internet

The *Internet* is a worldwide network of computers linked together to provide information to people everywhere. The two most popular services on the Internet are e-mail and the World Wide Web. You can access this network by connecting your computer to a telephone, DSL, or cable line and signing up with an Internet Service Provider (ISP).



If you want to access the Internet you need:

- A **modem** – a device that connects your computer, using a telephone, DSL, or cable line, to other computers or servers.
- An **Internet Service Provider** – a company that provides access to the Internet through an ISP server. When you connect to an ISP, the ISP server lets you access the Internet and your e-mail messages.
- A **Web browser** – a program that displays information from the World Wide Web.
- An **e-mail program** – a program that lets you create, send, and receive e-mail messages over the Internet.

# Setting up an Internet account

Before you can view the information on the World Wide Web, you need to set up an Internet account with an Internet Service Provider (ISP). If you have chosen Gateway.net or America Online as an ISP, follow these instructions to set up and connect to your account. To establish a different ISP service, or to transfer an existing account to this computer, contact the ISP directly.

If you set up an account with Gateway.net or America Online, an Internet e-mail address is created for you. After completing the setup you are ready to access the Internet.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on setting up an Internet account, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



**To set up an Internet account with Gateway.net or America Online:**

- 1** Double-click the **Register with Gateway.net** or the **America Online Included** icon. If you do not find the service you want on the Windows desktop, then look for the **Gateway.net** or **America Online Included** icon located in the Online Services folder on the Windows desktop.
- 2** Follow the on-screen instructions. After setting up your account, you can connect to the Internet and access your e-mail services.



# Accessing your Internet account

## HelpSpot



For more information on accessing your Internet account, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To connect to your Gateway.net or America Online Internet account:

- 1 Double-click the **Connect to Gateway.net** or **America Online Included** icon. The Connect dialog box opens.
- 2 Complete the member name and password information, then click **Connect**. The computer dials the Internet account phone number.

If you are using a service other than Gateway.net or America Online, check with your ISP for the proper procedure to connect.



After connecting, the Web browser window opens. For information about the Web and the Web browser, see “Using the World Wide Web” on page 57.



## To disconnect from your Gateway.net or America Online Internet account:

- Click **X** in the top right corner of the Gateway.net or America Online program. Your computer disconnects from the Internet.

If you are using a service other than Gateway.net or America Online, check with your ISP for the proper procedure to disconnect.

## Important



Make sure that your computer disconnects properly from your Internet account. If you do not have an “unlimited hours” ISP account, you may have to pay for the time that you are connected, even if you are not at the computer.



# Using the World Wide Web

The World Wide Web is a multimedia window to the Internet that gives you access to millions of information sources.

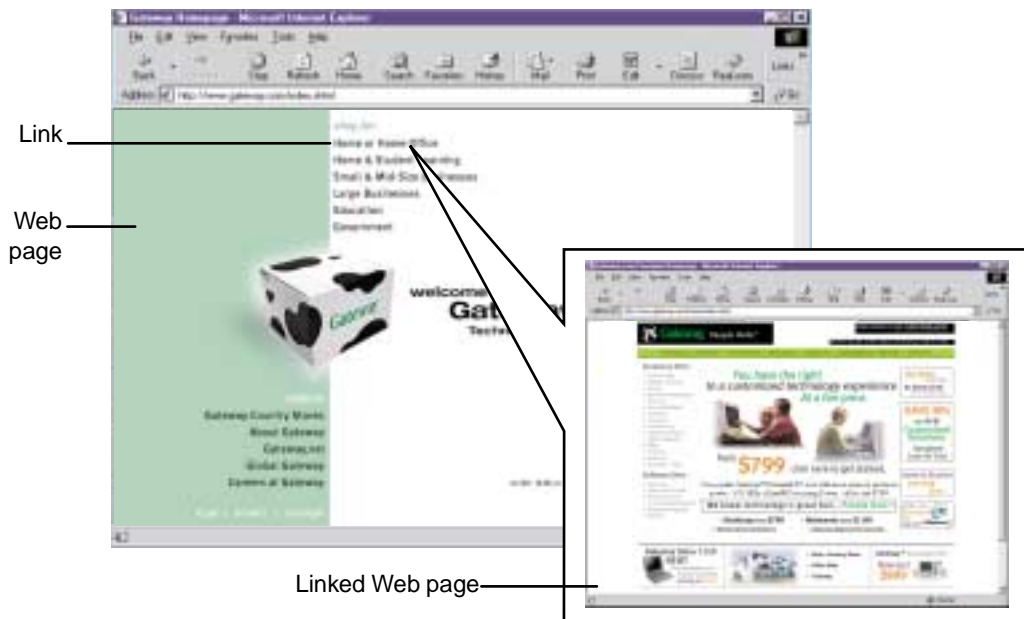
Information on the Web comes to you on *Web pages*, which are electronic documents that you view using a Web page display program called a *browser*. You can use any of the commercially available Web browsers, like Microsoft Internet Explorer, which comes installed on your new computer.

Web pages can contain not only text, but animations, music, and other multimedia features.

A group of related *Web pages* is called a *Web site*. You can access Web sites to shop, track investments, read the news, download programs, and much more.

You can explore a Web site or visit other Web sites by clicking areas on the Web page called *links*, or *hyperlinks*. A link may be colored or underlined text, a picture, or an animated image. You can identify a link by moving the mouse pointer over it. If the pointer changes to a hand, the item is a link.

To learn more about using the Web browser features, select **Help** in the menu bar.





# Connecting to a Web site

After you set up an account with an Internet Service Provider (ISP) such as Gateway.net or America Online, you can access the many information sources on the World Wide Web.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on connecting to a Web site, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To connect to a Web site:

- 1** Connect to your Internet account. After the computer connects, a default opening page or welcome screen opens.
- 2** To go to a different Web site, type the *address* (called a *URL* for “Universal Resource Locator”) in the browser address bar (for example **www.gateway.com**) then click **GO** on the browser address bar.



- OR -

On the current Web page, click a link to a Web site.

The Web browser locates the server computer on the Internet, *downloads* (transfers) data to your computer, and displays the page on the site that you requested.



Sometimes Web pages display slowly. The speed that a Web page displays on your screen depends on the complexity of the Web page and other Internet conditions. Additionally, the speed of your connection will determine how fast Web pages display.

# Downloading files

*Downloading* is the process of transferring files from a computer on the Internet to your computer.

To protect your computer against viruses, make sure that you scan the files you download. For more information, see “Protecting your computer from viruses” on page 129.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on downloading files, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To download files or programs from a Web site:

- 1** Connect to your Internet account.
- 2** In the address bar, type the address of the Web site that contains the file or program you want to download, then click **GO** on the browser address bar.  
  
- OR -  
  
Click on links on a Web page to navigate to the Web site containing the file that you want to download.
- 3** Create or locate the folder where you want to store the file on your computer.
- 4** Click the link on the Web page for the file that you want to download.
- 5** Follow the on-screen instructions for saving the file in the folder that you created.

A copy of the file is downloaded to your computer. The time that it takes to transfer the file to your computer depends on file size and Internet conditions.

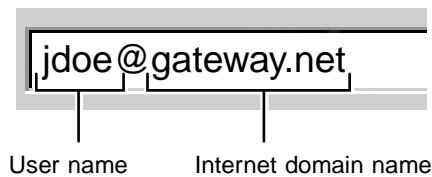
- 6** Open the folder that you created.
- 7** Install or view the downloaded file by double-clicking it. If applicable, follow the instructions provided on the Web site to run or install the program.



# Using e-mail

*E-mail* (electronic mail) lets you send messages to anyone who has an Internet connection and e-mail address. E-mail is usually a free service of your Internet account. The Internet never closes, so you can send e-mail messages at any time. Your e-mail messages arrive at most e-mail addresses in minutes.

An *e-mail address* consists of a user name, the @ symbol, and the Internet *domain name* of the Internet Service Provider (ISP) or company that “hosts” that user. Your e-mail address is assigned when you sign up for an account with an ISP. For example, a person with an account with the Gateway.net ISP might have an e-mail address that is similar to this one:



## Sending e-mail

HelpSpot



For more information on sending e-mail, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



### To send e-mail using Gateway.net or America Online:

- 1 Connect to your Gateway.net or America Online account.
- 2 Click **Create Mail** or click **Write**.
- 3 Type the e-mail address of the recipient you want to send e-mail to in the **Send To** box.
- 4 Type the subject of your e-mail in the **Subject** box.
- 5 Type the e-mail message.
- 6 When finished, click **Send Now**. Your e-mail is sent over the Internet to the e-mail address you specified.



# Checking your e-mail

**HelpSpot**



For more information on checking your e-mail, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



**To check your e-mail using Gateway.net or America Online:**

**1** Connect to your Gateway.net or America Online account.

**2** Click **Read Mail**.

- OR -

Click **Read**.



For more information about managing and organizing your e-mail messages, see the online help in your e-mail program.



# Using Drives and Multimedia

# 5

This chapter contains information on using the multimedia features on your computer, including information on:

- Using drives
- Adjusting the volume
- Using Windows Media Player
- Recording and playing audio
- Using MusicMatch

# Using Drives

This section explains how to use the diskette drive and the CD drive.

## Using diskettes

The diskette drive uses 3.5-inch diskettes (sometimes called *floppy disks*). Diskettes are useful for storing files or transferring files to another computer.

### Warning



Do not expose diskettes to water or magnetic fields. Exposure could damage the data on the diskette.



### To use a diskette:

- 1 Insert the diskette into the diskette drive with the label facing up.



- 2 To access a file on the diskette, double-click the **My Computer** icon, double-click the drive letter, then double-click the file.
- 3 To remove the diskette, make sure the drive activity light is off, then press the diskette eject button.



# Using the CD drive

You can use your computer to enjoy multimedia, such as listening to CDs.



## To insert a CD:

- 1 Press the eject button on the CD drive, then pull the disc tray completely open.



- 2 Place the CD in the tray with the label up, then press down carefully on the disc until it snaps into place.



- 3 Push the tray in until it is closed.





# Adjusting the volume

You can use the volume controls to adjust the overall volume and the volume of specific sound devices in your computer.

HelpSpot

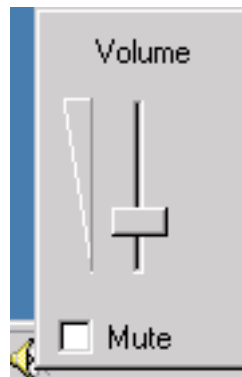


For more information on adjusting volume, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To adjust overall volume level:

- Click the speaker icon on the taskbar, then drag the slider to change the volume or click to select the **Mute** check box.



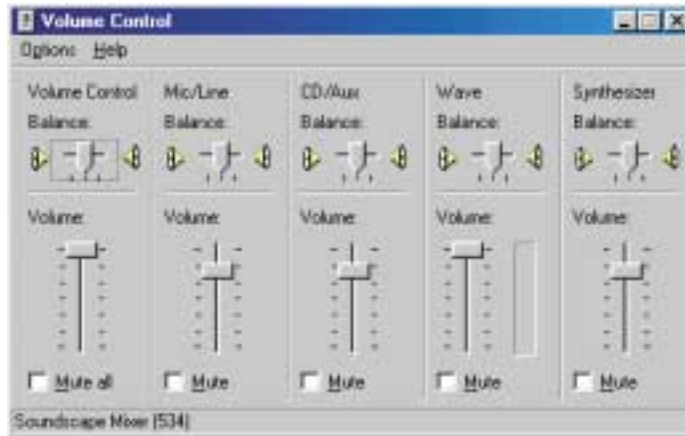
On the keyboard, press the **FN+PAGE UP** or **PAGE DOWN** keys to change the volume, or press **FN+HOME** keys to turn off (mute) all sound.





## To adjust specific volume levels:

- 1 Double-click the speaker icon on the taskbar. The Volume Control dialog box opens.



If the device you want to adjust does not appear in the Volume Control dialog box, select **Options**, **Properties**, select the audio device that you want to adjust, then click **OK**.

- 2 Drag the volume level and balance sliders for the device you want to adjust, then close the window. For more information about the volume controls, select **Help** in the Volume Control dialog box.



# Playing audio and video files

The Windows Media Player can play several types of audio and video files, including WAV, MIDI, MP3, AU, AVI, and MPEG formats. For more information about the using the Windows Media Player, select **Help**.



## To play a file using the Windows Media Player:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Programs, Accessories, Entertainment**, then **Media Player**. The Media Player opens.



Video file information

Video screen

Play/Pause

Stop

- 2 Select **File**, then **Open**. The Open dialog box opens.
- 3 Select the file you want to play, then click **Open**.
- 4 Play the file by clicking ► (play), then stop playing the file by clicking ■ (stop). For more information about the Windows Media Player, select **Help**.



# Listening to music CDs in Media Player

The Windows Media Player turns your computer into a multimedia center. Use the player to listen to Internet radio stations, play and copy your CDs, look for Internet movies, and create lists of all media on your computer. For more information about the using the Windows Media Player, select **Help**.



## To listen to a CD in the Windows Media Player:

- Insert a CD into the CD drive. The Windows Media Player opens and the CD plays.

If the Windows Media Player does not open automatically when you insert the CD, open it from the Start menu by clicking **Start**, then selecting **Programs**, then **Windows Media Player**. When the media player opens, click ► (play).



# Recording and playing audio

Use the instructions below to make an audio recording by speaking into the microphone.

**HelpSpot**

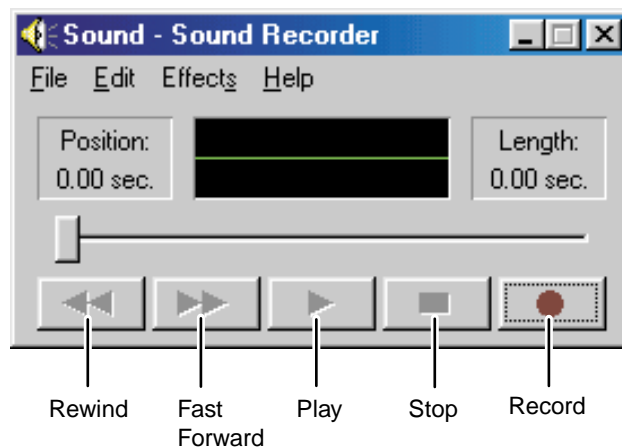


For more information on recording and playing audio, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



**To make an audio recording:**

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Programs, Accessories, Entertainment**, then **Sound Recorder**. The Sound Recorder opens.



- 2 Click ● (record), then speak into the microphone.
- 3 When you finish recording, click ■ (stop).
- 4 Select **File**, then **Save As**. The Save As dialog box opens.
- 5 Name the recording, specify the path, then click **Save**. The recording is saved.





### To play an audio recording in Sound Recorder:

- 1 Open the Sound Recorder.
- 2 Select **File**, then **Open**. The Open dialog box opens.
- 3 Select the file you want to play back, then click **Open**.
- 4 Play the file by clicking ► (play), then stop playing the file by clicking ■ (stop).



# Using MusicMatch

Using the MusicMatch™ program, you can:

- Play music CDs
- Build a music library
- Create MP3 music files from your music CDs and add them to your music library
- Enter music track information
- Listen to Internet Radio

**HelpSpot**



For more information on using MusicMatch, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.

## Playing CDs

You can use the MusicMatch program to play music CDs.



**To play a music CD:**

- 1** Double-click the **MusicMatch Jukebox** icon on your desktop. MusicMatch opens.
- 2** Place the music CD into the CD drive on your computer. The names of the music tracks appear in the playlist area.



- 3** Click **Play**.



# Creating music files

Using the MusicMatch program, you can copy the tracks from a music CD to your computer hard drive as MP3 files.

Here are some terms that you need to know before you get started:

- **Bit rate** is the number of bits required to store one second of music. CD quality is 128 kilobits per second. A high bit rate gives you better sound quality but the file size is also larger. For information about changing the sound quality settings, see the online help in MusicMatch.
- **MP3** (MPEG Layer 3) is a standard for digitally compressing high-fidelity music into compact files without noticeably sacrificing quality. MP3 files end in the file extension **.mp3**.
- **Ripping** is the process of copying a music track from a music CD and storing it on your hard drive.



To create (rip) MP3 files:

- 1 Double-click the **MusicMatch Jukebox** icon.
- 2 Place a CD into the CD drive on your computer. The CD tracks appear in the playlist with check marks next to them.
- 3 If you do not want to record a track, remove the check mark.
- 4 Click **REC**. The recorder window opens.



- 5 Click **REC** in the Recorder window. The tracks are copied as MP3 files to your music library on the hard drive.





# Building a music library

Use MusicMatch to build a music library. You can organize your music tracks by categories, find a track quickly by using the sort features, and add information to a song file.

You can add music tracks to your music library by:

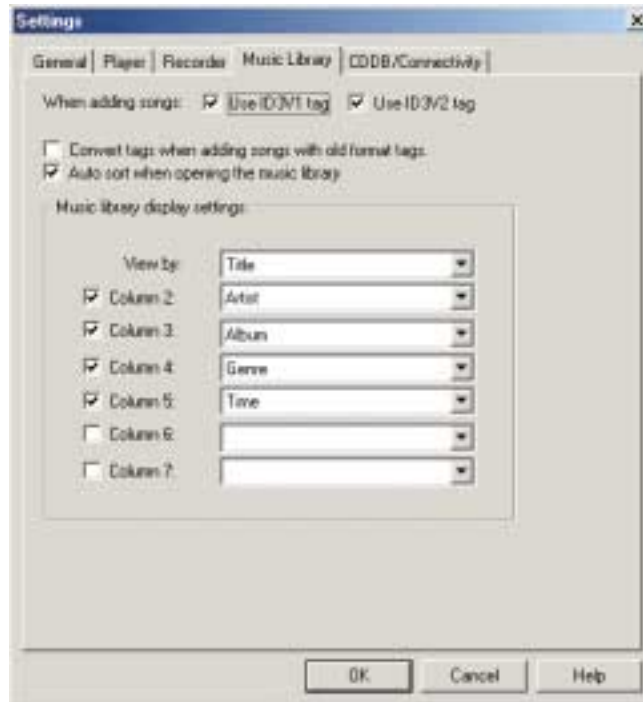
- **Creating MP3 files** – When you create MP3 files from the tracks on your music CD, MusicMatch automatically adds these files to your music library.
- **Dragging and Dropping** – Drag and drop files from Windows Explorer or your desktop to the music library.
- **Downloading files from the Internet** – When you are connected to the Internet, MP3 files that you download are automatically added to your music library.

# Changing the music library display settings



To change the music library display settings:

- 1 Double-click the **MusicMatch Jukebox** icon.
- 2 Select **Options**, then **Settings**. The Settings window opens.
- 3 Click the **Music Library** tab.



- 4 Select the categories that you want to display in the columns.
- 5 Click **OK**.



# Editing track information

If you are connected to the Internet and listening to a music CD, MusicMatch downloads and displays information such as the artist, album, and track titles from a database on the Internet called *CD DataBase* (CDDB).

After you add a CD track as an MP3 file to your music library, you can edit track information.



To edit track information:

- 1 Double-click the **MusicMatch Jukebox** icon.
- 2 Create an MP3 file.
- 3 Right-click the file, then select **Edit Track Tag**.

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Tag Song File: C:\My Documents\My Music\Misc\Misc\Track 01.mp3". At the top, it says "Select check boxes to apply the fields to tracks from the same CD". The fields are as follows:

Track Title	Track 01	Track Time	02:42	Track Number	01
Lead Artist		Genre		Record Year	
Album	John Doe meets Jane	Tempo	None		
Audio file URL	The meeting	Mood	None		
Buy CD URL		Situation	None		
Artist URL	John Doe	Preference	None		

Below the fields are buttons for "Lyrics", "Notes", and "Bio". At the bottom, there are buttons for "Add Art", "Remove Art", "Remove Tag", "OK", "Cancel", and "Apply".

- 4 Enter information such as track title, lead artist, album, or genre.
- 5 Click **OK**.

After you enter this track information, it is displayed in the MusicMatch playlist, music library, and recorder.



# Listening to Internet radio

Use the Radio feature in MusicMatch to listen to Internet Radio stations.



To listen to an Internet radio station:

- 1 Double-click the **MusicMatch Jukebox** icon, then connect to the Internet.
- 2 Click **Radio**.

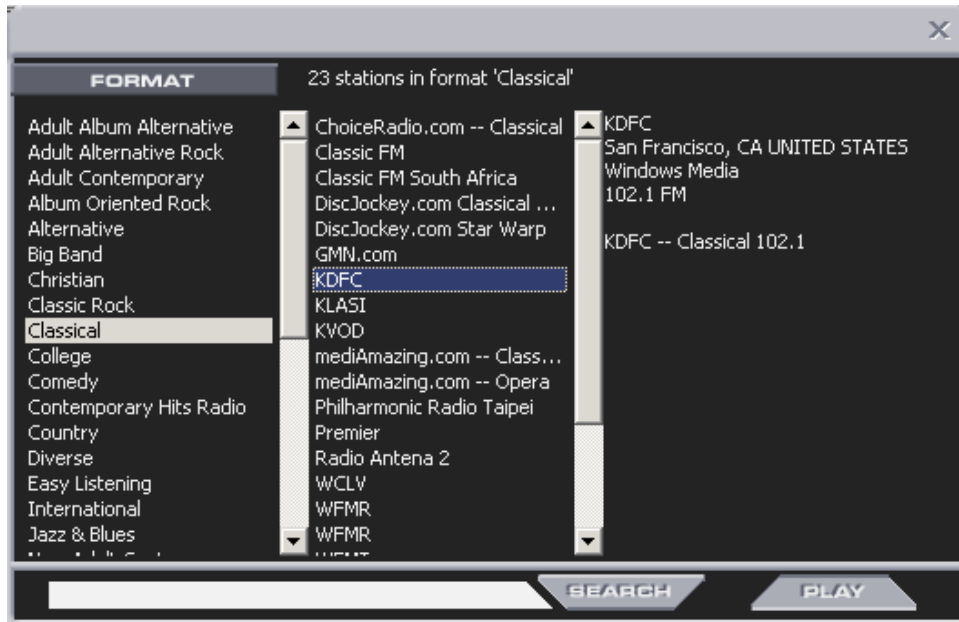
Click the  
Radio icon.



The Radio window opens.



- 3 Click **Station Selector**. A window opens that lists radio stations by music format, city, or country.



- 4 Select a radio station, then click **Play**. MusicMatch connects to the station.



## Using advanced features

You can also use MusicMatch to create your own music CDs and to download MP3 files to your portable MP3 player. See the online help that came with MusicMatch.

# Sending and Receiving Faxes

## 6

PhoneTools lets you send and receive faxes using the modem in your computer. After you have created a document using a spreadsheet, word processor, or graphics program, you can send it as a fax. You can also receive faxes on your notebook. This chapter shows you how to:

- Set up a fax cover page
- Create and send a fax
- Fax a document created in another program
- Receive, view, and print fax

# Setting up your cover page

Before you send your first fax, you need to set up your user information. Your fax cover sheets and fax headers will contain this information, which is required by law.

## HelpSpot

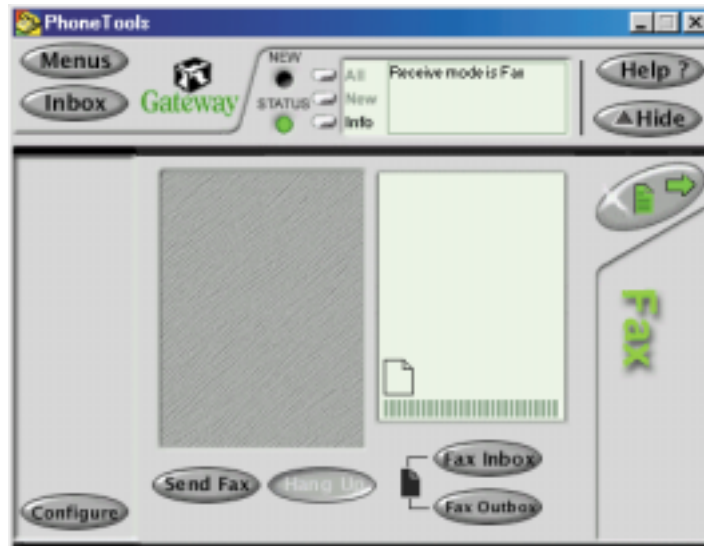


For more information on setting up a fax cover page, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To set up your fax cover page:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Programs**, **PhoneTools**, then **PhoneTools**. PhoneTools opens.



- 2 Click **Configure**, then select **General Configuration** from the pop-up menu. The General Configuration dialog box opens.
- 3 Click the **Customize** tab, then type your personal information in the **User** boxes.

- 4 Click the **Fax** tab, then enter your name and fax number in the **Identifier** text box. This identifier information is required by law. You can enter up to 20 characters in the text box. We suggest using eight characters for your identifier name, followed by 12 characters for your telephone number.
- 5 Click **OK**.
- 6 If you want to change the logo that appears on the cover page, click **Configure**, then select **Logo Management** from the pop-up menu. The Logo Management dialog box opens.



- 7 If you do not want the PhoneTools logo on your cover page, click the picture then click the clear button.

- OR -

If you want to replace the PhoneTools logo with one of your own, click the import button then select a picture for the logo. The picture must be small enough to fit in the logo box.

- 8 Click **OK**.





# Sending a fax

HelpSpot

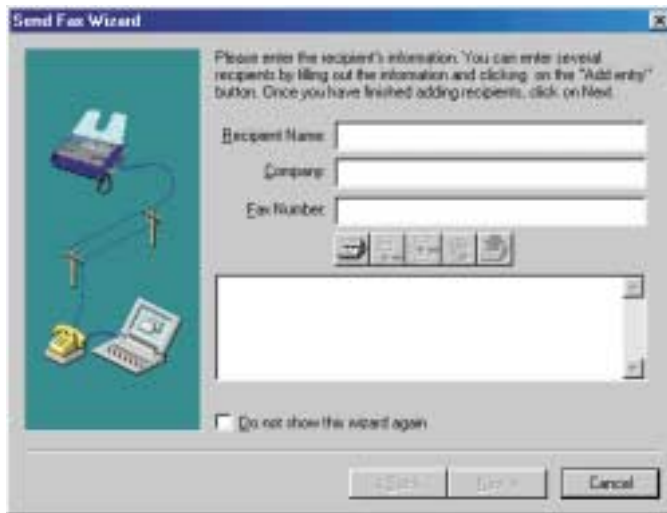


For more information on sending a fax, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.




To send a fax:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Programs, PhoneTools, then PhoneTools**. PhoneTools opens.
- 2 Click **Send Fax**. The Send Fax Wizard opens.



- 3 Enter the recipient's name, company (if applicable), and fax number, then click **Next**. The next wizard dialog box opens.



- 4 Type the message text in the **Message Text** area.
- 5 Select a cover page template from the **Template** drop-down list, then click **Next**. If you typed a message in the Message Text area, you must select a cover page.
- 6 If you want to attach a file, make sure the file is not open, then click  (browse), select the file, then click **Open**.
- 7 Click **Next**, then click **Finish**. The Confirm Transmissions dialog box opens.
- 8 Click **Send**. PhoneTools dials the fax number and sends your fax.



# Faxing from programs

**HelpSpot**



For more information on sending a fax directly from a program, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To fax a document directly from most programs:

- 1** In the program with the document open, click **File**, then select **Print**. The Print dialog box opens.
- 2** Select the printer **Capture fax BVRP**, then click **OK**. The Send Fax Wizard opens.
- 3** Complete the wizard as instructed in “To send a fax” on page 82.



# Receiving and viewing a fax

## HelpSpot



For more information on receiving a fax, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To receive and view a fax:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Programs**, **PhoneTools**, then **PhoneTools**. PhoneTools opens. When PhoneTools is open, it detects incoming faxes and stores them in the In Box.

## Important



Your notebook cannot detect incoming faxes while in the Standby power-saving mode. For more information on changing power savings settings, see “Changing automatic power settings” on page 94.

- 2 To view a fax, click **Fax Inbox**, then double-click the fax you want to view. The fax viewer opens, where you can view and print the fax.





# Managing Power

# 7

While your notebook is running on battery power, you should manage power consumption to get the most use out of the battery. This chapter shows you how to:

- Check and recharge the battery
- Change batteries
- Extend the life of the battery by conserving battery power and using alternate power sources
- Change power-saving settings

# Monitoring the battery charge

Closely monitor the battery charge. When the battery charge gets low, change the battery or connect to AC power immediately to prevent losing any unsaved work.

Monitor the battery charge by:

- Positioning the cursor over the power cord icon or battery icon in the taskbar. A battery status window opens. Move the cursor away from the icon to close the window.
- Pressing FN+F2 to view the Status display, which opens in the upper left corner of the screen. The Status display shows the current power source, the battery charge, and the power management mode.
- Looking at the battery indicator light:
  - A green light indicates that the battery is fully charged
  - An orange light indicates that the battery is being charged
  - A red light indicates that the battery is low
  - An orange, blinking light indicates that the battery is malfunctioning
- Waiting for these other low battery warnings:
  - A red, blinking light
  - A Low Battery message

If your battery charge indicators display what looks like an inaccurate charge, you may need to recalibrate the battery. For more information, see “Recalibrating the battery” on page 139.

# Recharging the battery

The battery recharges while it is installed and your notebook is connected to AC power. While the battery is recharging, the battery indicator light is orange.

## Changing batteries

Follow this procedure to change your notebook battery.

### Warning



Danger of explosion if battery is incorrectly replaced.

Replace only with the Gateway Solo 1150 Li-Ion battery. Discard used batteries according to the manufacturer's instructions.

The battery used in this device may present a fire or chemical burn hazard if mishandled. Do not disassemble, heat above 212°F (100°C), or incinerate. Dispose of used battery promptly. Keep away from children.



### To replace the main battery:

- 1 Turn off the computer.
- 2 Close the cover.
- 3 Turn your notebook over.



**4** Remove the screw from the battery release latch.



**5** Slide the battery release latch to release the battery.



- 6 Hold the latch forward and lift the battery straight out from the notebook.



- 7 Slide the recharged battery into the bay and snap it into place

- 8 Replace the screw.

- 9 Open the notebook and press the power button.



# Extending battery life

## Conserving battery power

While using the battery to power your notebook, conserve power by:

- Dimming the display as low as is comfortable.
- Removing PC Cards when you do not need them. Many PC Cards use a small amount of power while inserted, even if they are not being used.
- Modifying the Power Management settings for maximum power savings. For more information, see “Changing automatic power settings” on page 94.
- Closing the display panel to turn off the display while you are not using your notebook. The display stays off until you open the panel again.
- Using Hibernate mode for maximum power savings while the notebook is not in use. For more information, see “To use Hibernate mode:” on page 98.
- Using the CD drive only when necessary. CD drives use a large amount of power.
- Recharge the battery often, take an extra battery, and fully recharge the batteries before traveling. For more information, see “Recharging the battery” on page 89 and “Changing batteries” on page 89.

## Using alternate power sources

To extend battery life, use alternate power sources whenever possible.

- If traveling internationally, take electrical adapters. Save the battery for times when you cannot use a power adapter. If you plan on taking your AC power adapter, also take a single-plug surge protector.
- If you will have access to an EmPower™ in-flight power receptacle or an automobile cigarette lighter, use an airplane/automobile power adapter. Save the battery for times when you cannot use a power adapter.
- To find AC power outlets in airports, look for them next to support pillars, in large areas such as boarding gates, and under banks of telephones.

# Changing power modes

You can use the following power modes to lengthen the life of your notebook's battery:

- *Standby* - while your notebook is on standby, it switches to a low power state where devices, such as the LCD screen and drives, turn off.
- *Hibernate* - (also called *save to disk*) writes all current memory (RAM) information to the hard drive, then turns your notebook completely off. The next time you turn on the notebook, it reads memory information from the hard drive and opens the programs and documents that were open when you activated Hibernate. For more information on using Hibernate mode, see "To use Hibernate mode:" on page 98.

## Using Standby mode

Always save your work before using the Standby mode. Once in Standby, your computer reduces or turns the power off to most devices except memory. However, the information in memory is not saved to the hard drive. If power is interrupted, the information is lost.

The table below shows how to use Standby mode.

If your computer is...	...and you want to...	...then
Off	Start up	Press the power button.
On	Enter Standby mode	Press FN+F4.
In Standby mode	Exit Standby mode	Press the power button.
On	Shut down	Click <b>Start</b> , then select <b>Shut Down</b> , <b>Shut down</b> , then click <b>OK</b> .

# Changing automatic power settings

You can change the function of the power button, Standby key, and power-saving timers by changing power settings on your notebook.

You can customize power settings from the Windows Control Panel by selecting power schemes, setting power alarms, adjusting advanced power settings, and enabling Hibernate mode.

*Power schemes* (groups of power settings) let you change power saving options such as when the monitor or hard drive is automatically turned off. You can select one of the defined power schemes or create a custom power scheme.

*Alarms* can alert you when the battery charge is low.

*Advanced power settings* let you assign different power saving modes to the power button and Standby key. You can also select which power saving mode is activated when you close the LCD panel.

## HelpSpot



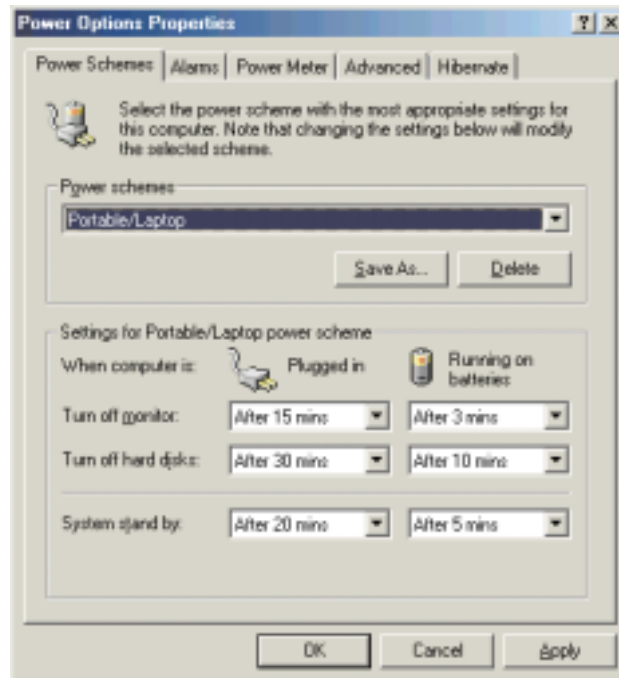
For more information on changing power settings, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To change the power scheme

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens. If you do not see the **Power Options** icon, click **view all Control Panel options**.

- 2 Double-click the **Power Options** icon. The Power Options Properties dialog box opens.



- 3 Select a power scheme from the **Power Schemes** list.

- OR -

Set the timers for **System stand by**, **Turn off monitor**, and **Turn off hard disks**, then save your custom power scheme by clicking **Save As** and typing in a name for the scheme.

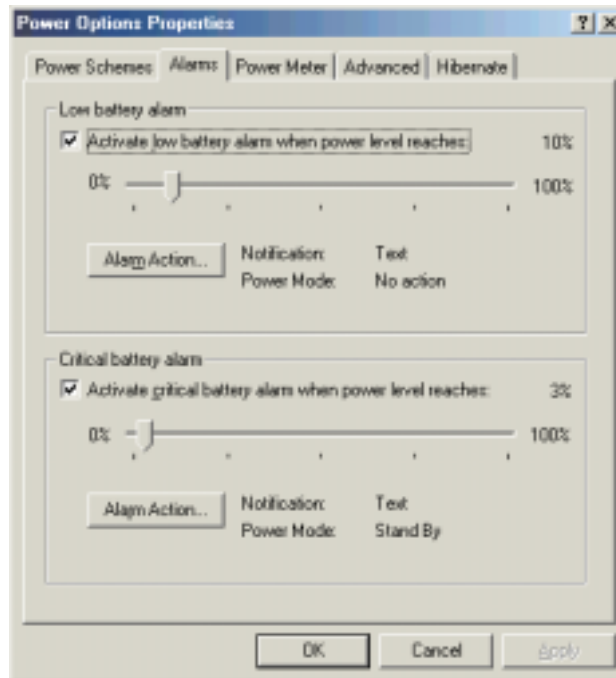
- 4 Save the changes by clicking **OK**.





## To change the alarm options:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens. If you do not see the **Power Options** icon, click **view all Control Panel options**.
- 2 Double-click the **Power Options** icon. The Power Options Properties dialog box opens.
- 3 Click the **Alarms** tab.



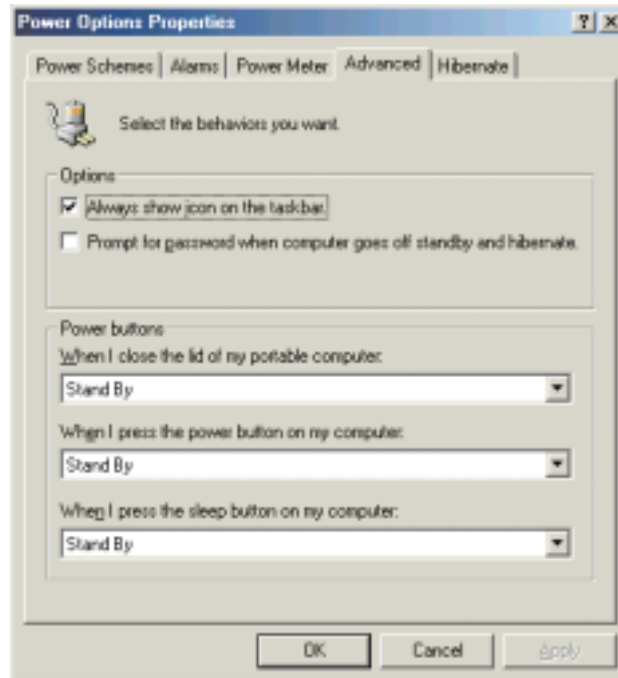
- 10 Adjust the alarm settings, then save the changes by clicking **OK**.





## To change advanced power management settings:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens. If you do not see the **Power Options** icon, click **view all Control Panel options**.
- 2 Double-click the **Power Options** icon. The Power Options Properties dialog box opens.
- 3 Click the **Advanced** tab.



- 11 Change the settings, then save the changes by clicking **OK**.

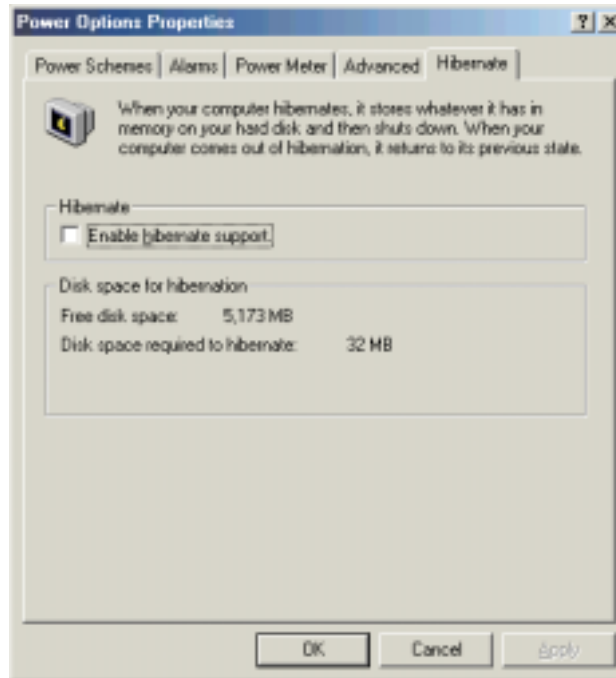






## To use Hibernate mode:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens. If you do not see the **Power Options** icon, click **view all Control Panel options**.
- 2 Double-click the **Power Options** icon. The Power Options Properties dialog box opens.
- 3 Click the **Hibernate** tab.



- 4 Select the **Enable hibernate support** check box, then click **Apply**. Hibernate mode is now an option you can select on the **Advanced** tab and in the **Shut Down** menu.
- 5 To use Hibernate as a power savings mode, click the **Advanced** tab, select **Hibernate** as one of the advanced power settings, then save the changes by clicking **OK**.
- 6 To manually activate Hibernate mode, click **Start**, then **Shut Down**, **Hibernate**, then **OK**.



# Customizing Your Computer

# 8

This chapter provides information about customizing your computer by changing settings in Windows and adding new hardware devices.

You can:

- Change screen and display settings
- Change the background and screen saver
- Program the multi-function buttons on the keyboard
- Install peripheral devices

# Adjusting the screen and desktop settings

Adjusting the color depth and screen area are two of the most basic display settings you may need to change. You can also adjust settings such as the screen background and screen saver.

## Adjusting the color depth

*Color depth* is the number of colors your LCD display. Various image types require various color depths for optimum appearance on your LCD. For example, simple color drawings may appear adequately in 256 colors while color photographs need millions of colors to be displayed with optimum quality.

Windows lets you choose from several color depth settings for your LCD. We recommend that the 16-bit High Color setting be used at all times.

If the color in your images seems “false” or “jumpy,” especially after you have played a game or run a video-intensive program, check the color depth setting and return it to 16-bit High Color, if necessary.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on adjusting the color depth, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



### To change the color depth:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 2 Click/Double-click the **Display** icon. The Display Properties window opens.

- 3 Click the **Settings** tab.



- 4 Select a setting from the **Colors** list. For most purposes, the color depth should be 16-bit High Color.
- 5 If you want to save your changes, click **OK**. Windows tells you it will apply your changes when you click **OK** again.
- 6 Click **OK**.



# Adjusting the screen area

You can change the screen area to a size you prefer. For example, you can increase the screen area to fit more icons on your desktop, or you can decrease the screen area to make reading and identifying objects on the display easier. The larger the screen area, the smaller the individual items, such as icons and menu bars, appear.

## HelpSpot



For more information on adjusting the screen area, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To change the screen area:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 2 Click/Double-click the **Display** icon. The Display Properties window opens.
- 3 Click the **Settings** tab.



- 4 Drag the **Screen area** slider to the size you prefer.

- 5 If you want to save your changes, click **OK**. Windows tells you it will apply your changes when you click **OK** again.
- 6 Click **OK**.



## Applying a color scheme

A color scheme is a set of colors that you can apply to your Windows environment. For example, you can change the appearance of such things as the desktop, windows, and dialog boxes. You can select an existing scheme or create your own.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on applying a color scheme, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



**To select a color scheme:**

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 2 Click/Double-click the **Display** icon. The Display Properties window opens.

- 3 Click the **Appearance** tab. If you want to apply one of Windows' color schemes, go to Step 6.



- 4 If you want to create a new scheme, select various items from the **Item** list and change their settings.
- 5 Click **Save As**, type a name for the new scheme, and then click **OK**.
- 6 Select a color scheme from the **Scheme** list. An example of the scheme appears in the window above the list.
- 7 Click **OK**.



# Changing the desktop background

The Windows desktop background can be changed to either a picture or HTML document. Windows provides several background pictures. You can also use pictures or HTML documents that you have created or retrieved from other sources.

## Important



If Active Desktop is turned on and you have chosen to display Web content, the standard desktop background will be partially or completely hidden, so you may not be able to see changes you have made in the background. For more information about Active Desktop, see HelpSpot.

## HelpSpot



For more information on changing the desktop background, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.

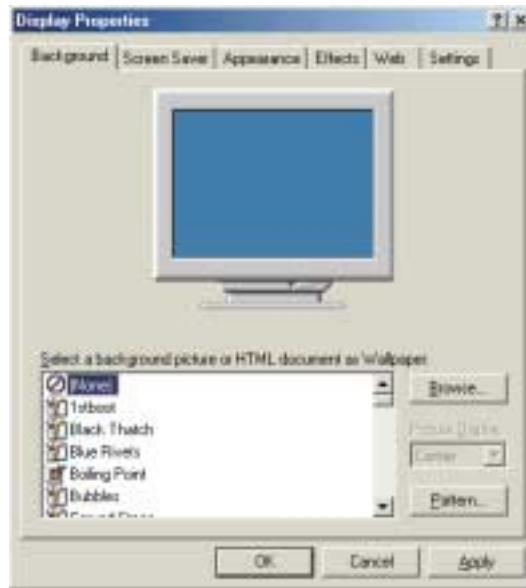


## To change the desktop background:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 2 Click/Double-click the **Display** icon. The Display Properties dialog box opens.



- 3 Click the **Background** tab.



- 4 Select a background picture from the **Select a background picture or HTML document as Wallpaper** list.

- OR -

Select a background picture from another location by clicking **Browse**.

- 5 If you want the picture you chose to cover the entire screen, select **Tile** from the **Picture Display** list.

- 6 If the picture you chose does not cover the entire screen and you did not choose to tile the image in Step 5, you can change the solid color behind the picture by clicking **Pattern**, selecting a pattern from the **Pattern** list, then clicking **OK**.

- 7 Click **OK**.



# Selecting a screen saver

You can use a screen saver to keep others from viewing your screen while you are away from your computer. Windows supplies a variety of screen savers that you can choose from, and many more are available from the Internet and as commercial products.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on changing the screen saver, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



**To select a screen saver:**

- 1** Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 2** Click/Double-click the **Display** icon. The Display Properties dialog box opens.

- 3 Click the **Screen Saver** tab.



- 4 Select a screen saver from the **Screen Saver** list. Windows previews the screen saver.
- 5 If you want to customize the screen saver, click **Settings** and then make your changes. If the **Settings** button is not available, you cannot customize the screen saver you selected.
- 6 If you want to password protect your screen saver, select the **Password protected** checkbox, click **Change**, type your password, confirm it, then click **OK**.
- 7 If you want to change the time before the screen saver is activated, click the up or down arrows next to the **Wait** box.
- 8 Click **OK**.



# Programming the multi-function buttons

The Multi-function Keyboard Utility lets you change the actions of some of the multi-function buttons. For a description of the buttons, see “Using multi-function buttons” on page 23.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on programming the multi-function buttons, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



**To program the multi-function buttons:**

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. If you do not see the **Multi-function Keyboard** icon, click **view all Control Panel options**.
- 2 Double-click the **Multi-function Keyboard** icon.



- 3 Click the tab of the multi-function button you want to change.
- 4 Click **OK**.



# About installing a printer, scanner, or other peripheral device

Your computer has two Universal Serial Bus (USB) connectors for connecting peripheral devices, such as printers, scanners, and digital cameras, to your computer.

USB ports are *plug-and-play*, which means that you usually can use a USB device by just plugging it into the USB connector. Windows establishes communication between your computer and the device automatically.

Refer to the device documentation for detailed information and installation instructions.

# Travel Tips

# 9

These tips can make traveling with your notebook more convenient and trouble-free. This chapter provides information on:

- Using the modem
- Transferring files
- Protecting your notebook from loss and theft
- Managing your notebook's power efficiently

## Tips & Tricks



To access the contents of this manual while you are traveling, download the manual from [www.gateway.com/support/manlib/](http://www.gateway.com/support/manlib/).

# Modem

- Take a telephone cord to connect the modem to telephone jacks. If you are traveling internationally, take telephone jack adapters or an acoustic handset coupler.
- Take a telephone line protector.
- Take a telephone line tester to check for unsafe lines, especially if you are traveling internationally.
- Take remote access information with you so you can connect to your ISP while outside of your usual calling area. A list of country dialing codes may be especially useful if you are traveling internationally.
- Download entire Web sites that you frequently visit for off-line viewing if you will be traveling for extended periods without access to an Internet connection.

# Files

- Copy your working files from your desktop computer to your notebook before you travel.
- If you need to access your desktop computer files from your notebook while traveling, set up the desktop computer for remote access.
- Take extra diskettes for transferring files between computers and backing up files.

# Security

- Get a locking cable for your notebook so you can attach a cable lock and leave the notebook in your hotel room while you are away.
- Always keep your notebook with you while waiting in airports, train stations, or bus terminals. Be ready to claim your notebook as soon as it passes through the x-ray machine in security checkpoints.
- Write down your notebook model number and serial number (available on the system label) in case of theft or loss, and keep the information in a safe place. Also, tape your business card or an address label to your notebook and accessories.

- Whoever sits next to you or behind you can see your notebook display. Avoid working with confidential files until you can be sure of privacy.
- Use a startup password to restrict access to your notebook.



### To create a startup password:

- 1** Restart your notebook. As soon as you see a startup screen, press F2. The BIOS Setup utility opens.
- 2** Open the **Security** menu, then highlight **Password on boot** and press ENTER.
- 3** Highlight **Enabled**, then press ENTER.
- 4** Highlight **Set Supervisor Password**, then press ENTER and follow the instructions. You must set the supervisor password in order to set the user (startup) password.
- 5** Highlight **Set User Password**, then press ENTER and follow the instructions. This is the password you need to enter at startup.

#### Important



Use a password that you can remember, but that is difficult for someone else to guess. The password feature is very secure, with no easy way to recover a forgotten password. If you forget your password, you must return your notebook to Gateway for service. Call Client Care for instructions.

- 6** Exit the BIOS Setup utility by opening the **Exit** menu, then selecting **Exit Saving Changes**. When you start your computer, you are prompted to enter the user password you set in Step 5.





# Power

To get the best performance from your notebook, avoid using the battery whenever possible, monitor the battery charge, and use the most efficient power management settings.

- For information on conserving battery power, see “Conserving battery power” on page 92.
- For information on using alternate power sources, see “Using alternate power sources” on page 92.
- For information on monitoring the battery charge, see “Monitoring the battery charge” on page 88.

# Upgrading Your Notebook

# 10

This chapter provides information about adding hardware devices to your notebook. Topics include:

- Adding PC Cards
- Replacing memory
- Replacing the hard drive

# Adding PC Cards

The PC Card slot (also known as the PCMCIA card slot) is located on the left side of your notebook.

These PC Cards can be used in your notebook:

- PC Card (16-bit)
- CardBus (32-bit)
- Zoom Video PC Card

You do not need to restart your notebook when changing most cards because your notebook supports *hot-swapping*. Hot-swapping means that you can insert a PC Card while your notebook is running. If your PC Card does not work after hot-swapping, refer to the PC Card manufacturer's documentation for further information.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on adding PC Cards, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To insert a PC Card:

- Push the card firmly into the PC Card slot label-side up until the outer edge of the card is flush with the side of the notebook.





### To remove a PC Card:

- 1 Release the eject button by pressing the PC Card eject button once.
- 2 Eject the PC Card by pressing the eject button again.



# Preventing static electricity discharge

The components inside your computer are extremely sensitive to static electricity, also known as *electrostatic discharge* (ESD).

## Caution



ESD can permanently damage electrostatic discharge sensitive components in the computer. Prevent ESD damage by following ESD guidelines every time you open the computer case.

Before opening the computer case, follow these guidelines:

- Turn off the computer power.
- Wear a grounding wrist strap (available at most electronics stores) and attach it to a bare metal part of the computer.

## Warning



To prevent risk of electric shock, do not insert any object into the vent holes of the power supply.

- Touch a bare metal surface on the back of the computer.
- Unplug the power cord and modem cable.
- Remove the battery.

Before working with computer components, follow these guidelines:

- Avoid static-causing surfaces such as carpeted floors, plastic, and packing foam.
- Remove components from their antistatic bags only when you are ready to use them. Do not lay components on the outside of antistatic bags because only the inside of the bags provide electrostatic protection.
- Always hold expansion cards by their edges or their metal mounting brackets. Avoid touching the edge connectors and components on the cards. Never slide expansion cards or components over any surface.

## Warning



To avoid exposure to dangerous electrical voltages and moving parts, turn off your computer and unplug the power cord and modem cable before opening the case.

# Installing memory

Your portable computer uses memory modules called SO-DIMMs (Small Outline Dual Inline Memory Modules). The modules are available in various capacities and any module can be placed in any available slot. Use only PC100 memory modules for upgrading your memory.



## To add or replace memory modules:

- 1 Follow the instructions under “Preventing static electricity discharge” on page 118.
- 2 Shut down your notebook, then remove the battery and disconnect the power adapter and modem cable.

### Warning



Disconnect the power supply cord, remove the battery, and disconnect the modem cable before you remove the memory bay cover. Replace the cover before you restore power or reconnect the modem cable.

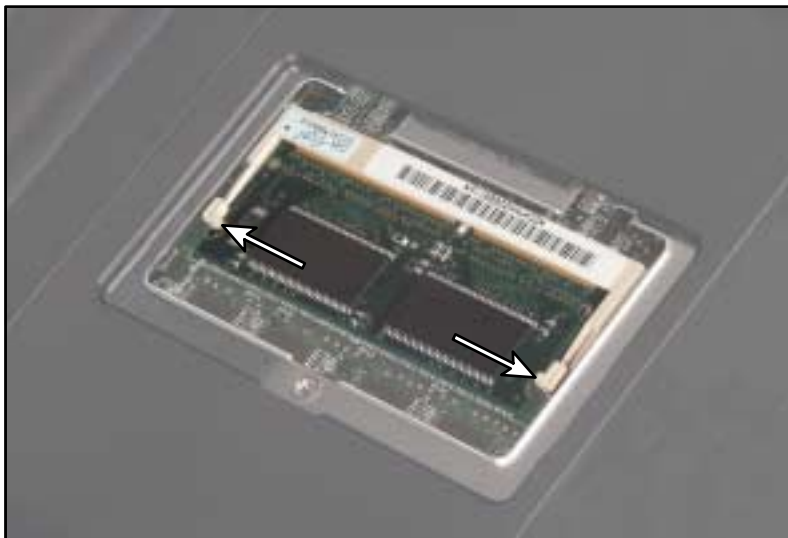
- 3 Remove the memory bay cover screw.



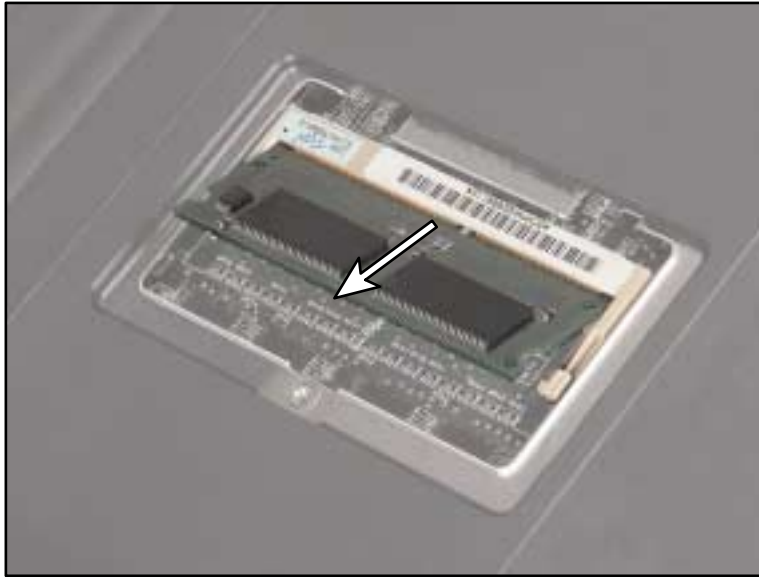
- 4 Remove the memory bay cover.



- 5 If you are removing a module, gently press outward on both clips at either end of the memory module until the module tilts upward.



- 6 Pull the memory module out of the slot.



- 7 Hold the new or replacement module at a 30-degree angle and slide it into the empty memory slot.

**Important**



Use only PC100 (100 MHz) memory modules.

- 8 Gently push the module down until it clicks in place.
- 9 Replace the memory bay cover, insert the battery or connect the power adapter, and turn on your notebook.





# Replacing the hard drive

If you would like more hard drive capacity, you can replace your original drive with a higher-capacity drive.



## To replace the hard drive:

- 1 Follow the instructions under “Preventing static electricity discharge” on page 118 for important precautions.
- 2 Shut down the notebook, then disconnect the power and modem cables.
- 3 Turn the notebook over, then remove the battery. For more information, see “Changing batteries” on page 89.
- 4 Remove the screw that secures the hard drive to the notebook.



- 5 Slide the hard drive kit out and lift it up.



- 6 Place the new hard drive kit into the notebook case.
- 7 Replace the screw to secure the hard drive to the notebook.
- 8 Reinstall the battery, then connect the power.





# Maintaining Your Computer

# 9

This chapter provides basic information about maintaining your computer hardware and software.

## Caring for your computer

Here are ways to extend the life of your system:

- Be careful not to bump or drop your computer, and do not put any objects on top of it. The case, although strong, is not made to support extra weight.
- When transporting your computer, we recommend that you put it in a carrying case.
- Keep diskettes, modular drives, and your computer away from magnetic fields. Magnetic fields can erase data on both diskettes and hard drives.
- Never turn off your computer when the hard drive light is on because data on the hard drive could be lost or corrupted.
- Avoid subjecting your computer to extreme temperature changes. The case can become very brittle and easy to break in cold temperatures and can melt or warp in high temperatures. Damage due to either extreme is not covered by your warranty. As a general rule, your computer is safest at temperatures that are comfortable for you.
- Keep all liquids away from your computer. Almost any liquid can result in extremely expensive repairs that are not covered under your warranty.

- Avoid dusty or dirty work environments. Dust and dirt can clog the internal mechanisms.
- Set up a regular maintenance schedule according to the table below to keep your computer running at its best.

Maintenance task	Immediately after purchase	Monthly	When needed	See...
Create an emergency diskette	X			page 127
Check for viruses		X	X	page 129
Manage hard drive space			X	page 131
Clean up hard drives		X	X	page 132
Scan hard drive for errors		X	X	page 133
Defragment hard drive		X	X	page 135
Back up files		X	X	page 137
Recalibrate the battery			X	page 139
Clean computer case			X	page 140
Clean keyboard			X	page 141
Clean screen			X	page 141
Clean mouse			X	page 141

# Creating an emergency startup diskette

An *emergency startup diskette* is a diskette that contains critical information that you need to start your computer if Windows fails to start. You should create a startup diskette as soon as you get your computer.

## HelpSpot



For more information on creating an emergency startup diskette, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



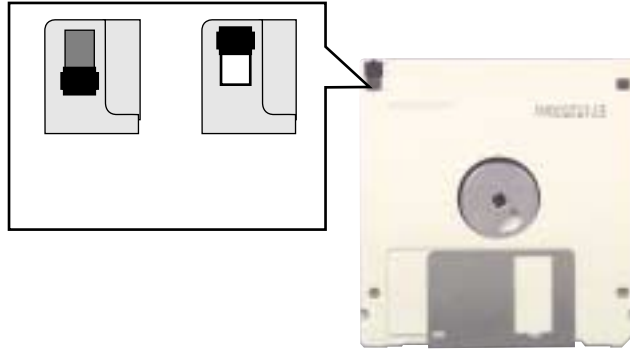
## To create an emergency startup diskette:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 2 Click/Double-click **Add/Remove Programs**. The Add/Remove Programs Properties dialog box opens.
- 3 Click the **Startup Disk** tab.



- 4 Click **Create Disk**. A message tells you to label a new diskette and insert it into the diskette drive.

- 5 Place a new, labeled diskette into the diskette drive.
- 6 Click **OK**. Windows copies files to the emergency startup diskette.
- 7 When Windows finishes copying files, remove the diskette from the diskette drive.
- 8 You should write-protect the diskette, which will prevent the diskette from being erased or infected by viruses, by sliding the tab that is at the top of the diskette to the up position.



- 9 Store your emergency startup diskette in a safe place with your other backup software media.



# Protecting your computer from viruses

A *virus* is a program that attaches itself to a file on a computer, then spreads from one computer to another. Viruses can damage data or cause your computer to malfunction. Some viruses go undetected for a period of time, because they are activated on a certain date.

Protect your computer from a virus by:

- Using your Norton® AntiVirus program to check files and programs that are on diskettes, attached to e-mail messages, or downloaded from the Internet.
- Checking all programs for viruses before installing them.
- Disabling macros on suspicious Microsoft Word and Excel files. These programs will warn you if a document that you are opening contains a macro that might have a virus.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on protecting your computer from viruses, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To scan for viruses:

- 1** Click **Start**, then select **Programs, Norton AntiVirus, then Norton AntiVirus**. Norton AntiVirus opens.
- 2** Click **Scan for Viruses**.
- 3** Select the type of scan you want to make in the Scan area, then click **Run Scan Now**.







### To remove a virus:

- 1 Find and remove the virus immediately using Norton AntiVirus.
- 2 Turn off your computer and leave it off for at least 30 seconds.
- 3 Turn on the computer and rescan for the virus.



You should periodically update your Norton AntiVirus program to protect against the latest viruses.



### To update Norton AntiVirus:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Programs, Norton AntiVirus**, then **LiveUpdate - Norton AntiVirus**. The LiveUpdate wizard opens.
- 2 Follow the on-screen instructions to update your Norton AntiVirus program with the latest virus protection files.
- 3 When the program is done updating, click **Finish**.



# Managing hard drive space

Windows provides several utilities you can use to manage your hard drive space and keep your hard drive running efficiently.

## Checking hard drive space

In Windows, you can see a chart of the available hard drive space.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on checking hard drive space, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



**To check hard drive space:**

- 1** Double-click the **My Computer** icon. The My Computer window opens.
- 2** Right-click the drive that you want to check for available file space, then select **Properties**. Drive space information appears.



# Using Disk Cleanup

Delete unneeded files such as temporary Windows files to free hard drive space.

**HelpSpot**

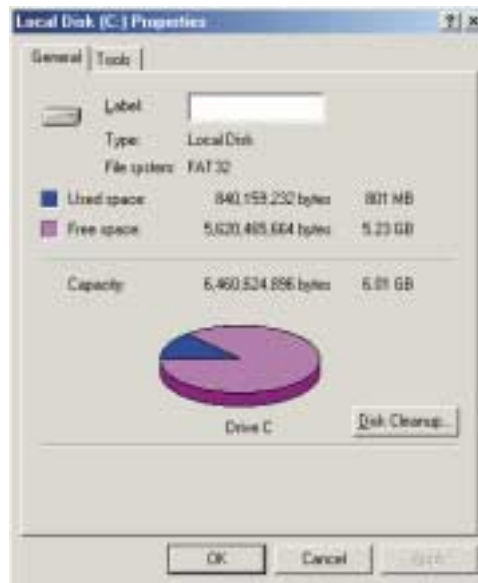


For more information on using Disk Cleanup, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



To use **Windows Disk Cleanup program**:

- 1 Double-click the **My Computer** icon. The My Computer window opens.
- 2 Right-click the hard drive that you want to delete files from, then select **Properties**. The System Properties dialog box opens at the **General** tab.



- 3 Click **Disk Cleanup**. The Disk Cleanup dialog box opens.
- 4 Select the check box beside each file type you want to delete. For more information about file types you can delete, read the descriptions in the Disk Cleanup dialog box.
- 5 Click **OK**, then click **Yes**.



# Scanning the hard drive for errors

The ScanDisk program examines the hard drive for surface errors and file and folder problems. ScanDisk corrects these problems so that Windows and other programs run efficiently.

If you use your computer several hours every day, you probably want to run ScanDisk once a week. On the other hand, if you use your computer less frequently, once a month may be adequate. Also use ScanDisk if you encounter hard drive problems.

## HelpSpot



For more information on using ScanDisk, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To run ScanDisk:

- 1 Double-click the **My Computer** icon. The My Computer window opens.
- 2 Right-click the hard drive that you want to check for errors, then select **Properties**. The System Properties dialog box opens.
- 3 Click the **Tools** tab.



- 4 Click **Check Now**. The ScanDisk dialog box opens.
- 5 Select the options to use, then click **Start**. For Help, press F1. ScanDisk checks the drive for errors. This process may take several minutes.
- 6 Correct any problems that are found by following the on-screen instructions. After ScanDisk has finished checking the drive for errors, it provides a summary of the problems that it found.
- 7 Click **Close**.



# Defragmenting the hard drive

When working with files, sometimes Windows divides the file information into pieces and stores them in different places on the hard drive. This is called *fragmentation*, and it is normal. In order for the computer to use a file, Windows must search for the pieces of the file and put them back together. This process slows the hard drive performance.

The Disk Defragmenter program organizes the data on the drive so that each file is stored as one unit rather than multiple pieces scattered across different areas of the drive. Defragmenting the information stored on the drive can improve hard drive performance.

While the Disk Defragmenter program is running, do not use your keyboard or mouse because using them may stop and restart the defragmenting process. Also, if you are connected to a network, log off before starting Disk Defragmenter. Network communication may stop the defragmentation process and cause it to start over.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on defragmenting your hard drive, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To run Disk Defragmenter:

- 1 Double-click the **My Computer** icon. The My Computer window opens.
- 2 Right-click the hard drive that you want to defragment, then select **Properties**. The System Properties dialog box opens.

- 3 Click the **Tools** tab.



- 4 Click **Defragment Now**.

- 5 If Disk Defragmenter does not start automatically, click **Start** or **Defragment**.

Disk Defragmenter shows its progress on the screen. When finished, Disk Defragmenter asks if you want to quit the program.

- 6 If you want to defragment another drive, click **No** then follow the on-screen instructions.

- OR -

If you do not want to defragment another drive, click **Yes**.



# Backing up files

Backing up files and removing them from the hard drive frees space for new files on the hard drive. It also protects you from losing important information if the hard drive fails or you accidentally delete files.

You should back up your files regularly to diskettes or a writable CD, if you have a CD-R or CD-RW drive. Use diskettes or writable CDs to do partial backups of selected files or folders. Use a backup device such as a CD-R, CD-RW, or Zip drive, or other high-capacity backup device to do a complete hard drive backup. If you do not have a high-capacity backup device and you want to purchase one, you can contact Gateway's Add-on Sales department or visit our Web site at [www.gateway.com](http://www.gateway.com).

Gateway GoBack (available on selected models) also provides file recovery features for files that have been lost in the last few days.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on Gateway GoBack, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



# Using Maintenance Wizard

The Maintenance Wizard lets you schedule maintenance tasks such as running Disk Defragmenter and ScanDisk and deleting unnecessary files.

HelpSpot

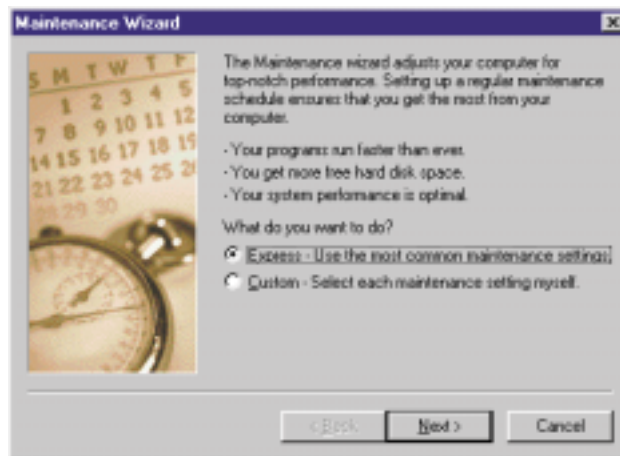


For more information on using the Maintenance Wizard, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



To start the Maintenance Wizard:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Programs**, **Accessories**, **System Tools**, then **Maintenance Wizard**. The Maintenance Wizard dialog box opens.



- 2 Select the Maintenance Wizard options that suit your preferences. Remember that your computer must be on during scheduled maintenance tasks.



# Recalibrating the battery

If your notebook unexpectedly goes into Standby mode while you are using it but the battery charge is not low, you may need to recalibrate your battery. You should also recalibrate the battery once a year to maintain the accuracy of the battery gauge.



## To recalibrate the battery:

- 1 Connect the AC power adapter, then turn on your notebook.
- 2 When you see the startup screen, press F2. The BIOS Setup program opens.
- 3 Press the left arrow key until you select the **Security** menu.
- 4 Press the down arrow key until you select the **Battery Auto-Learning** option (set by default to disabled).
- 5 Press ENTER. A small settings window opens.
- 6 Press the down arrow key to select **Enabled**.
- 7 Press ENTER. The option is set to **Enabled**.
- 8 Press the left arrow key until you select **Exit**.
- 9 Press the down arrow key until you select **Exit Saving Changes**. The battery recalibration program begins.

After your battery has been recalibrated, the notebook recharges the battery. Recharging may take 12-24 hours. After the battery finishes recharging, the battery gauge displays the accurate battery charge. If the battery gauge does not show an accurate charge, contact technical support.

### Important



Do not interrupt the battery recalibration process. If recalibration is interrupted, you must start the process over again.

- 10 Follow the on-screen instructions to exit the battery recalibration program.



# Cleaning your computer

Keeping your computer clean and the vents free from dust helps keep your system performing at its best. You may want to gather these items and put together a computer cleaning kit:

- A soft cloth
- An aerosol can of air that has a narrow, straw-like extension
- Isopropyl alcohol
- Cotton swabs
- A CD drive cleaning kit

## Cleaning the exterior

### Warning



When you shut down your computer, the power turns off, but some electrical current still flows through the computer. To avoid possible injury from electrical shock, unplug the power cord and modem cable from the wall outlets.

Always turn off the computer and other peripherals before cleaning any components, and remove the battery.

Use a damp, lint-free cloth to clean the computer and other parts of your system. Do not use abrasive or solvent cleaners because they can damage the finish on your components.

Your computer is cooled by air drawn in through the vents on the case, so keep the vents free of dust. With the computer turned off and unplugged, brush the dust away from the vents with a damp cloth. Be careful not to drip any water into the vents. Do not attempt to clean dust from the inside the computer.

## Cleaning the keyboard

You should clean the keyboard occasionally to free it of dust and lint trapped under the keys. The easiest way to do this is to blow dirt from under the keys using an aerosol can of air with a narrow, straw-like extension.

If you spill liquid on the keyboard, turn off the computer and turn the unit upside down. Let the liquid drain, then let the keyboard dry before trying to use it again. If the keyboard does not work after it dries, you may need to replace it.

## Cleaning the screen

Use a soft cloth and water to clean the screen. Squirt a little water on the cloth (never directly on the screen), and wipe the screen with the cloth.

### Caution



An LCD screen is made of specially coated glass and can be scratched or damaged by abrasive or ammonia-based window cleaners.

## Cleaning the mouse

If you have a mouse and the mouse pointer begins moving erratically across the screen or becomes difficult to control precisely, then cleaning the mouse will likely improve its accuracy.

### HelpSpot



For a video demonstration on cleaning the mouse, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



### To clean your mouse:

- 1 Turn the mouse upside down.
- 2 Rotate the retaining ring on the bottom of the mouse counter-clockwise.



- 3 Remove the retaining ring and mouse ball.



- 4 Remove any dust, lint, or dirt from the mouse ball with a soft cloth.
- 5 Clean the mouse rollers with a cotton swab dipped in isopropyl alcohol.



- 6 Replace the mouse ball and lock the retaining ring into place.



# Restoring Software

# 10

If your computer is not working properly, try the following options to correct the problem:

- Reinstall device drivers. For more information, see “Reinstalling device drivers or programs” on page 144.
- Troubleshooting. For more information, see “Troubleshooting” on page 149.

If the options above do not correct the problem, you can use the *Solo 1150 Recovery CD: Disc 1* to reinstall Windows Me. Find out more about the reinstallation options, see “Reinstalling Windows Me” on page 147.

# Reinstalling device drivers or programs

Device drivers are programs that control devices such as monitors, CD drives, and modems. Drivers translate information between computer devices and programs.

Drivers for your original computer hardware are installed at Gateway. If you install a new device, you need to install the drivers provided by the device manufacturer.

You should reinstall device drivers:

- If directed to do so while troubleshooting
- If you see a message indicating that there is a problem with a device driver

You can also reinstall some of the programs that came with your computer if necessary. For more information, see “Reinstalling programs” on page 146.

This section provides instructions for reinstalling device drivers or programs in Windows Me. If you are not comfortable with the procedures covered in this chapter, seek help from a more experienced computer user or a computer service technician.

# Reinstalling device drivers

If you just reinstalled Windows Me, the device drivers were automatically reinstalled. However, you need to reinstall device drivers if directed to do so while troubleshooting or if a message tells you that there is a problem with a device driver.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on reinstalling device drivers, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To reinstall Windows Me device drivers:

- 1 Place the *Solo 1150 Software Backup CD* into your CD drive. The System Restoration program starts. Go to Step 5.  
- OR -  
If the program does not start automatically, go to Step 2.
- 2 Click **Start**, then select **Run**. The Run dialog box opens.
- 3 In the **Open** text box, type **D:\RUNMENU.EXE** (where D is the drive letter of your CD drive).
- 4 Click **OK**. The System Restoration Kit program starts.
- 5 If the Welcome to the System Restoration Kit window opens, close it by clicking **OK**.
- 6 Click the **Install Hardware** tab.
- 7 Click **Automatic Installation**, then select multiple device drivers to reinstall.  
- OR -  
Click **Manual Installation**, then select a single device driver to reinstall.
- 8 Click **Install**.
- 9 Follow any additional on-screen instructions. Depending on the driver you are reinstalling, you may only need to restart your computer to complete the installation. However, if a setup wizard opens when you restart your computer, follow the on-screen instructions.





# Reinstalling programs

Some of the programs that came installed on your system are included on the *Solo 1150 Software Backup CD*. Other programs need to be installed from the additional backup CDs that came with your computer.

**HelpSpot**



For more information on reinstalling programs, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To reinstall programs:

- 1** Place the *Solo 1150 Software Backup CD* into your CD drive. The System Restoration program starts. Go to Step 5.  
- OR -  
If the program does not start automatically, go to Step 2.
- 2** Click **Start**, then select **Run**. The Run dialog box opens.
- 3** In the **Open** text box, type **D:\RUNMENU.EXE** (where D is the drive letter of your CD drive).
- 4** Click **OK**. The System Restoration Kit program starts.
- 5** If the Welcome to the System Restoration Kit window opens, close it by clicking **OK**.
- 6** Click the **Install Software** tab.
- 7** Click **Automatic Installation**, then select multiple programs to reinstall.  
- OR -  
Click **Manual Installation**, then select a single program to reinstall.
- 8** Click **Install**.
- 9** Follow any additional on-screen instructions. Depending on the program you are reinstalling, you may only need to restart your computer to complete the installation. However, if a setup wizard opens when you restart your computer, follow the on-screen instructions.



# Reinstalling Windows Me

The *Solo 1150 Recovery CD: Disc 1* steps you through reinstalling Windows Me. It automatically reinstalls the hardware device drivers and some software. The remaining software is installed using the CDs that came with your computer.

## HelpSpot



For more information on reinstalling Windows, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.



## To reinstall Windows Me and the device drivers:

- 1** Place the *Solo 1150 Recovery CD: Disc 1* in the CD drive.
- 2** Restart the computer. When you see the message about changing system settings, press F2, then press ESC.
- 3** Follow the on-screen instructions. The on-screen instructions step you through the operating system and device drivers installation.





# Troubleshooting

# 11

This chapter provides some solutions to common computer problems. Use the information to troubleshoot and correct typical hardware and software issues.

If the suggestions in this chapter do not correct the problem, see “Getting Help” on page 169 for more information about how to get help.

## Safety guidelines

While troubleshooting your computer, follow these safety guidelines:

- Never remove any bay cover while your computer is turned on.
- Make sure you are properly grounded before accessing internal components. For more information about preventing damage from static electricity, see “First steps” on page 150.

# First steps

If you have problems with your computer, try these things first:

- Make sure the power adapter is connected to your computer and an AC outlet and that the AC outlet is supplying power.
- If you use a power strip or surge protector, make sure it is turned on.
- If a peripheral device does not work, make sure that all connections are secure.
- Make sure that your hard drive is not full.
- If an error message appears on the screen, write down the exact message. The message may help technical support in diagnosing and fixing the problem.
- If you added or removed modules or peripheral devices, review the installation procedures you performed and make sure you followed each instruction.
- If an error occurs in a program, consult the printed documentation or the online help.

## Important



Do not try to troubleshoot your problem if power cords or plugs are damaged, if your computer was dropped, or if the cabinet was damaged. Instead, unplug your computer and contact a qualified computer technician.

## HelpSpot



For more information on troubleshooting, double-click the **HelpSpot** icon on your desktop.

# Troubleshooting

## CD drive

### **The computer does not recognize a disc or the CD drive**

- The disc may not be properly seated in the tray. When you place a disc on the tray, make sure that you press the disc firmly onto the spindle so that the retaining clips hold the disc in place.
- The CD drive may not be completely inserted into the drive bay. Press the drive into the bay, then try to access the disc again.
- Make sure the disc label is facing up.
- Try a different disc. Occasionally discs are flawed and cannot be read by the drive.
- Clean the disc. For more information, see “To clean a CD:” on page 152.
- Your computer may be experiencing some temporary memory problems. Shut down and restart your computer.

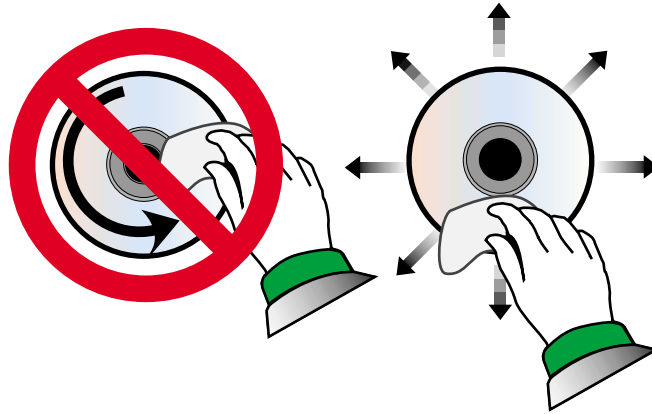
### **An audio CD does not produce sound**

- Make sure the CD label is facing up.
- Click the speaker icon in the lower right corner of the taskbar and make sure the volume controls are turned up.
- Make sure mute controls are turned off by double-clicking the speaker icon in the lower right corner of the taskbar and making sure that the **Master Out**, **CD Audio**, **MIDI**, **Digital**, and **Wave** mute check boxes are not selected. For more information about setting the mute control, see “Adjusting the volume” on page 66.
- Clean the CD. For more information, see “To clean a CD:” on page 152.
- Your computer may be experiencing some temporary memory problems. Shut down and restart your computer.
- Reinstall the audio device drivers. For more information, “Reinstalling device drivers or programs” on page 144.



### To clean a CD:

- Wipe from the center to the edge, not around in a circle, using a product made especially for the purpose.



# Diskette drive

## **The diskette drive is not recognized**

- Shut down and restart your computer.

## **You receive a “Access Denied” or “Write protect” error message**

- Move the write-protection tab in the upper-right corner of the diskette down (unprotected).
- The diskette may be full. Delete unnecessary files on the diskette and try again.
- Not all diskettes are IBM-compatible. Make sure the diskette you are using is IBM-compatible.
- Try a different diskette. Occasionally diskettes are flawed and cannot be read by the diskette drive.

## **You receive a “Disk is full” error message**

- Delete unnecessary files on the diskette.
- Try a different diskette. Occasionally diskettes are flawed and cannot be read by the diskette drive.
- Run ScanDisk on the diskette. For more information, see “Scanning the hard drive for errors” on page 133. If errors are detected and corrected, try using the diskette again.

## **You receive a “Non-system disk” or “Disk error” error message**

- Eject the diskette from the diskette drive, then press ENTER.
- Make sure the diskette you are using is IBM-compatible.

## **The light on the diskette drive is lit continuously**

- Remove the diskette from the drive. If the light stays on, try restarting your computer.



# File management

## A file was accidentally deleted



To restore files that were deleted in Windows:

- 1 Double-click the **Recycle Bin** icon.
- 2 Right-click the file you want to restore, then select **Restore**. The file is restored to the place where it was originally deleted from.

### Important



If the Recycle Bin was emptied before you tried to restore a file, the file cannot be recovered.



# Hard drive

## You receive an “Insufficient disk space” error message

- Delete unnecessary files from the hard drive using Disk Cleanup. For more information, see “Using Disk Cleanup” on page 132.
- Empty the Recycle Bin by right-clicking the **Recycle Bin** icon and selecting **Empty Recycle Bin** from the pop-up menu.

### Caution



All deleted files will be lost when you empty the Recycle Bin.

- If possible, save your files to another disk or drive.
- If the hard drive is full, copy any files not regularly used to diskettes or other backup media, then delete them from the hard drive.

## You receive a “Data error” message

- This may be the result of a defective area on the hard drive. To fix hard drive problems, run the ScanDisk program. For more information, see “Scanning the hard drive for errors” on page 133.

## The hard drive cannot be accessed, or you receive a “General failure reading drive C” error message

- If a diskette is in the diskette drive, eject it and restart the computer.
- Make sure that the hard drive is correctly installed. Remove it, firmly reinsert it, then restart your computer. For more information, see “Replacing the hard drive” on page 122.
- If your computer has been subjected to static electricity or physical shock, you may need to reinstall the operating system. For more information about reinstalling the operating system, “Reinstalling Windows Me” on page 147.

# Internet

## You cannot connect to the Internet

- Make sure your computer is connected to the telephone line and the telephone line has a dial tone. Use the Setup poster to make sure that the connections have been made correctly.

- If you have the call waiting feature on your telephone line, make sure it is disabled.
- Make sure your account with your Internet Service Provider (ISP) is set up properly. Contact your ISP technical support for help.
- Make sure you do not have a problem with your modem. For information about solving modem problems, see “Modem” on page 158.

### **You receive an “Unable to locate host” message and are unable to browse the Internet**

This problem can occur when you have typed a URL (Web address) incorrectly, you have lost your Internet connection, or your ISP is having technical difficulties.

- Double-check the URL or try a different URL.
- If the error message still appears, disconnect from the ISP connection and close your browser. Then reconnect and open the browser. If you still get the error, you may have a problem with your Internet connection or ISP.

### **Connecting to a Web site takes too long**

Many factors can affect Internet performance:

- The condition of the telephone lines in your residence or at your local telephone company
- The condition of the Internet computers to which you connect and the number of users accessing those computers
- The complexity of graphics and multimedia on Web pages
- Having multiple Web browsers open, performing multiple downloads, and having multiple programs open on your computer

### **People are sending you e-mail messages, but you haven't received any mail**

- Click the receive button in your e-mail program.
- Make sure your account with your Internet Service Provider (ISP) is set up properly. Contact your ISP technical support for help.

## **Keyboard**

### **The external keyboard does not work**

- Make sure the keyboard cable is plugged in correctly.
- Try a keyboard that you know works to make sure the keyboard port works.
- If you spilled liquid in the keyboard, turn off the computer and unplug the keyboard. Clean the keyboard and turn it upside down to drain it. Let the keyboard dry before using it again.

### **A keyboard character keeps repeating or you receive a “Keyboard stuck” or “Key failure” error message**

- Make sure that nothing is resting on the keyboard.
- Make sure a key is not stuck. Press each key to loosen a key that might be stuck, then restart the computer.

## **LCD panel**

### **The screen area is not correct**

- Change the screen area and color depth from the Display Properties dialog box. For more information, see “Adjusting the color depth” on page 100 and “Adjusting the screen area” on page 102.

### **The text on the display is dim or difficult to read**

- Adjust the brightness controls.
- Move the computer away from sources of electrical interference such as televisions, unshielded speakers, microwaves, fluorescent lights, and metal beams or shelves.
- Change the display settings. For more information, see “Adjusting the screen and desktop settings” on page 100.

# Memory

## You receive a “Memory error” message

- Make sure the memory modules are inserted correctly in the memory bay slot. For more information, see “Installing memory” on page 119.
- Use diagnostic programs to help determine if a memory module is failing. For more information, see “Installing memory” on page 119.

## You receive a “Not enough memory” error message

- Close all programs, then restart the computer.

# Modem

## Your modem does not dial or does not connect

- Make sure your computer is connected to the telephone line and the telephone line has a dial tone. Use the Setup poster to make sure that the connections have been made correctly.
- Make sure that the modem cable is less than 6 feet (1.8 meters) long.
- Remove any line splitters or surge protectors from your telephone line, then check for a dial tone by plugging a working telephone into the telephone wall jack.
- If you have additional telephone services such as call waiting, call messaging, or voice mail, make sure that all messages are cleared and call waiting is disabled before using the modem. Contact your telephone service to get the correct code to temporarily disable the service. Also make sure the modem dialing properties are set appropriately.



### To check the dialing properties:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 2 If you do not see the **Modems** icon, click **view all control panel options**.
- 3 Double-click the **Modems** icon, then click **Dialing Properties**. The Dialing Properties window opens.
- 4 Make sure all settings are correct.



- Disconnect any answering machine, fax machine, or printer that is on the same line as the modem. You should not have these devices plugged into the same telephone line as the modem.
- Make sure that you are not using a digital, rollover, or PBX line. These lines do not work with your modem.
- Check for line noise (scratchy, crackling, or popping sounds). Line noise is a common problem that can cause the modem to connect at a slower rate, abort downloads, or even disconnect. The faster the modem, the less line noise it can tolerate and still work properly.
- Listen to the line using your telephone. Dial a single number (such as 1). When the dial tone stops, listen for line noise. Wiggle the modem cable to see if that makes a difference. Make sure the connectors are free from corrosion and all screws in the wall or telephone wall jack are secure.
- You can also call your telephone service and have them check the telephone line for noise or low line levels.
- Try another telephone line (either a different telephone number in your house or a telephone line at a different location). If you can connect on this line, call your telephone company.
- Try connecting with the modem at a lower connection speed. If reducing the connect speed lets you connect, contact your telephone company. The telephone line may be too noisy.

### **You cannot connect to the Internet**

- The ISP may be having technical difficulties. Contact your ISP technical support for help.
- See if the modem works with a different communications program. The problem may be with just one program.

## Your 56K modem does not connect at 56K

Current FCC regulations restrict actual data transfer rates over public telephone lines to 53K. Other factors, such as line noise, telephone service provider equipment, or ISP limitations, may lower the speed even further.

Upload (sending data out from your computer) speeds are limited to 33.6K.

- Check your modem connection speed and dial-up network (DUN) connections by accessing the gateway.your.way dial-up server. The server also contains drivers, patches, and updates for current Gateway hardware and software.

The server provides a secure connection and is a stand-alone server. You cannot use it to access the Internet. The server cannot be accessed Mondays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Central Time, when the server is backed up.



### To access the gateway.your.way dial-up server:

- 1 Double-click the **My Computer** icon, then click/double-click the **Dial-Up Networking** icon.
- 2 If the Welcome to Dial-Up Networking wizard opens, click **Cancel**.
- 3 Double-click the **Make New Connection** icon, then type **gateway.your.way** in the **Type a name for the computer you are dialing** text box.
- 4 Click **Configure**.
- 5 Click the **Options** tab, click to select the **Bring up terminal window after dialing** and **Display modem status** check boxes, then click **OK**.
- 6 Click **Next**.
- 7 In the **Telephone number** text box type **1-888-888-0520**, then click **Next**. Include any special numbers (such as 9, to get an outside line) that are required by your telephone system.
- 8 Click **Finish**. An icon for gateway.your.way appears in the Dial Up Networking window.
- 9 Right-click the **gateway.your.way** icon, then click **Properties**. The gateway.your.way Properties dialog box opens.
- 10 Click the **Networking** tab.

- 11 Click to clear the **NetBEUI**, and **IPX/SPX Compatible** check boxes, then click **OK**.
- 12 Click the **Security** tab, click to clear the **Log on to network** check box, then click **OK**.
- 13 Double-click the **gateway.your.way** icon.
- 14 Type **gwclient** in the **User Name** text box, then click **Connect**. A black screen opens.
- 15 Type **gwclient**, then press F7. An icon (two blinking computers) appears in the status area of the taskbar, verifying that the modem is connected.
- 16 Open your Web browser.
- 17 Type **gateway.your.way** in the **Address** text box, then press ENTER. If a Web page opens, your modem is working correctly.



### **Your fax communications program only sends and receives faxes at 14,400 bps when you have a 56K modem**

Current fax technology only supports a maximum send and receive rate of 14,400 bps.

### **The modem is not recognized by the computer**

- Make sure the line connected to the modem is working and plugged into the modem port. Use the Setup poster to make sure that the connections have been made correctly.
- If the modem shares the telephone line with another device, make sure the telephone line is not in use (for example, someone is on the telephone, or another modem is in use).
- Use the modem cable that came with your computer. Some telephone cables do not meet required cable standards and may cause problems with the modem connection.
- Shut down and restart your computer.
- Reinstall the device driver. For more information, “Reinstalling device drivers or programs” on page 144.
- Run Windows modem diagnostics.





### To run modem diagnostics:

- 1 Close all open programs.
- 2 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel opens.
- 3 If you do not see the **Modems** icon, click **view all control panel options**.
- 4 Double-click the **Modems** icon. The Modems Properties dialog box opens.
- 5 Click the **Diagnostic** tab, click the COM port next to the name of the modem, then click **More Info**. The Modem Info dialog box opens.

If information about the modem appears, the modem passed diagnostics. If no modem information is available, a white screen appears with no data, or if you get an error such as “port already open” or “the modem has failed to respond,” the modem did not pass diagnostics. Contact Gateway technical support.



### The modem is noisy when it dials and connects

When your modem tries to connect to another modem, it begins *handshaking*. Handshaking is a digital “getting acquainted” conversation between the two modems that establishes connection speeds and communication protocols. You may hear this communication as unusual sounds when the modems first connect. If the sounds are too loud, you can turn the modem volume down.



### To turn down the modem volume:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window appears.
- 2 If you do not see the **Modems** icon, click **view all control panel options**.
- 3 Double-click the **Modems** icon. The Modems Properties dialog box appears.
- 4 Click the **General** tab, select your modem, then click **Properties**.
- 5 Adjust the **Speaker volume** control.
- 6 Click **OK**.



## You received an “Unable to establish protocols” error message

- Reinstall dial-up networking and dial-up networking components.



### To reinstall dial-up networking:

- 1** Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 2** Click/Double-click the **Add/Remove Programs** icon, then click the **Windows Setup** tab.
- 3** Double-click **Communications**.
- 4** Click to clear the **Dial-Up Networking** check box, then click **OK** twice. The System Settings Change dialog box opens.
- 5** Click **Yes**. The computer restarts.
- 6** Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 7** Click/Double-click the **Add/Remove Programs** icon, then click the **Windows Setup** tab.
- 8** Double-click **Communications**.
- 9** Click to select the **Dial-Up Networking** check box, then click **OK** twice. The System Settings Change dialog box opens.
- 10** Click **Yes**. The computer restarts. If you are asked to insert your *Solo 1150 Recovery CD*, do so.





### To reinstall dial-up networking components:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Control Panel**. The Control Panel window opens.
- 2 If you do not see the **Network** icon, click **view all control panel options**.
- 3 Double-click the **Network** icon.
- 4 If **TCP/IP** is not included in the Network Components list, click **Add**, then select **Protocol**, **Add**, then **Microsoft** as the manufacturer. Click **TCP/IP** on the right side of the dialog box, then click **OK**.
- 5 Click **Client for Netware Networks** (if included), then click **Remove**.
- 6 Click **IPX/SPX** (if included), then click **Remove**.
- 7 Click **NetBeui** (if included), then click **Remove**.
- 8 Make sure the **Primary Network Logon** field is set to **Windows Logon**.
- 9 Click **OK** twice, then restart the computer.



## Mouse

### The external mouse does not work

- Make sure that the mouse cable is plugged in correctly.
- Try a mouse you know is working to make sure the mouse port works.
- Shut down and restart your computer.

### The external mouse works erratically

- Clean the mouse. For more information, see “Cleaning the mouse” on page 141.

## Networks

### You cannot connect to your company network

- Every network is unique. Contact your company computer department or network administrator for help.

# Passwords

## **The computer does not accept your password**

- Make sure that CAPS LOCK and PAD LOCK are turned off, then retype the password.

## **You forgot your startup password**

- The password feature (which is set in the BIOS Setup utility) is very secure, with no easy way to recover a forgotten password. You must return your computer for repair. Call Client Care for instructions.

# Power

## **Your computer is not working on AC power**

- Make sure your AC power adapter is connected properly to your computer. For more information, see “Connecting the AC adapter” on page 12.
- If your system is plugged into a surge protector, make sure the surge protector is securely connected to an electrical outlet, switched on, and working properly. To test the outlet, plug a working device, such as a lamp, into the outlet and turn it on.
- Make sure the AC power adapter cables are free from cuts or damage. Replace any damaged cables.

## **Your computer is not working on battery power**

- Make sure the battery is installed properly. For more information, see “Changing batteries” on page 89.
- Make sure the battery is fully recharged. For more information, see “Recharging the battery” on page 89.
- Make sure the battery is calibrated correctly. For more information, see “Recalibrating the battery” on page 139.

# Printer

## **The printer will not turn on**

- Make sure the power cable is plugged into an AC power source.

## The printer is on but will not print

- Check the cable between the printer and the computer. Make sure it is connected to the proper port.
- Many printers have an online/offline button that you may need to press so the printer can start printing. Press the button to put the printer online.
- Check the connector and cable for bent or broken pins.
- Reinstall the printer driver. Use the manual that came with your printer for instructions on installing the printer driver.
- If the printer you want to print to is not the default printer, make sure you have selected it in the printer setup.



### To set a default printer:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Printers**.
- 2 Right-click on the name of the printer you want to be the default printer, then select **Set as Default**.



### You receive a “Printer queue is full” error message

- Make sure the printer is not set to work offline.



#### To make sure the printer is not set to work offline:

- 1 Click **Start**, then select **Settings**, then **Printers**.
- 2 Double-click the icon for the printer you want to use.
- 3 Select **Printer**. If there is a **Use Printer Offline** option on the menu, click to clear the check mark.



- Wait until files have been printed before sending additional files to the printer.
- If you print large files or many files at one time, you may want to add additional memory to the printer. Consult the printer documentation for instructions for adding additional memory.

### You receive a “Printer is out of paper” error message

- After adding paper, make sure the printer is online. Most printers have an online/offline button that you need to press after adding paper.

## ScanDisk

### When you started your computer, it ran ScanDisk

The computer probably had its power interrupted or was improperly shut down. Windows automatically runs ScanDisk at startup when the computer was improperly shut down.

ScanDisk fixes errors on the hard drive to minimize data loss. To prevent ScanDisk from running when you start your computer, make sure you always shut down by selecting **Shut Down** from the **Start** menu.

# Sound

## **You are not getting sound from the speakers**

- Make sure the Windows volume control is turned up by clicking the taskbar speaker icon.
- Make sure that **Mute** is not selected. For more information, see “Adjusting the volume” on page 66.

# Video

## **Important**



If your Solo 1150 is a DSTN LCD panel, you may notice some minor screen distortions or ghosting with this technology. Use your brightness and contrast Function keys to adjust your screen for best viewing.

## **The screen is too dark**

- Adjust the brightness using the function keys.

## **The external monitor is not working**

- Make sure that the monitor power is turned on and that the video cable is properly connected.

## **The LCD panel has pixels that are always dark or too bright**

- This condition is normal and inherent in the TFT technology used in active-matrix LCD screens. Gateway’s inspection standards keep these to a minimum. If you feel these pixels are unacceptably numerous or dense on your display, contact Gateway Client Care to identify whether a repair or replacement is justified based on the number of pixels affected.

# Getting Help

# 12

This chapter tells you about additional information resources available to help you use your computer. It includes the following topics:

- HelpSpot™
- Software support tools
- Gateway Web site
- Online help
- Telephone support
- Tutoring and training



# HelpSpot™

*HelpSpot* is an easily accessible collection of Help information, troubleshooters, instructional videos, and automated support. Use HelpSpot to answer questions about Windows and to help you quickly discover and use the many features of your Gateway computer.



## To start HelpSpot:

- Click **Start**, then select **Help**.

-OR-

Double-click the **Gateway Help and Support** desktop icon.



HelpSpot opens.



If this is the first time you have started HelpSpot on your computer, you will experience a brief wait while HelpSpot builds the help database, then HelpSpot will display an introductory video.



You can find help information by clicking a link, performing a search, or browsing the index. To learn about how to work with documents and programs, use your mouse, and other topics, click the **Getting Started** link on the HelpSpot main page.



HelpSpot contains several short videos to help introduce you to new concepts or show you how to perform various tasks.



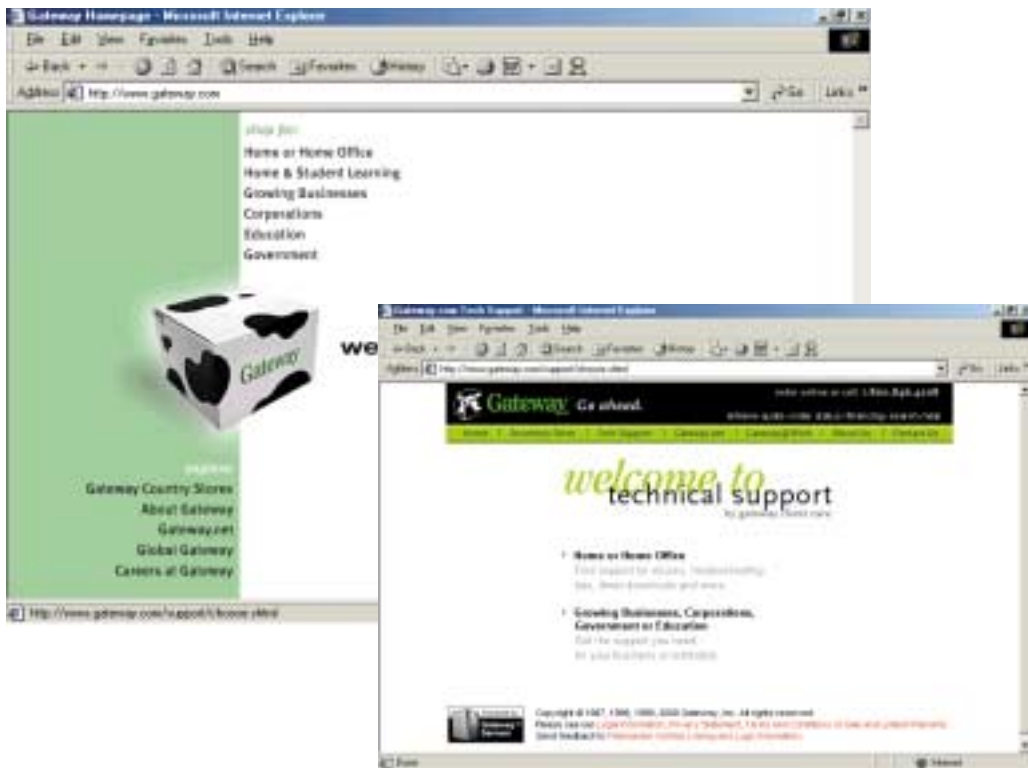
## To play a HelpSpot video:

- To watch a video in HelpSpot, click **Videos** on the HelpSpot navigation bar, then click a video title. The video plays.



# Gateway Web site

Gateway provides a variety of information on its Web site to help you use your computer.



Visit the Gateway Web site at [www.gateway.com](http://www.gateway.com) for:

- Technical documentation and product manuals
- Technical tips and support
- Hardware drivers
- A glossary of computer terms
- Frequently asked questions (FAQs)

For more information about connecting to the Internet, see “Learning about the Internet” on page 54.

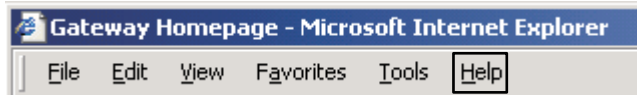
You can access the following resources through the Gateway Web site or through HelpSpot:

Resource	Service description	Location
Gateway Update Utility	This utility automatically finds, downloads, and installs the latest drivers for your Gateway-supplied hardware.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml">www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml</a>
Chat with Tech	Engage in a live Internet chat session with a Gateway technical support professional to help you get the answers to your technical inquiries.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml">www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml</a> -OR- HelpSpot
Chat with Search Assistant	Engage in a live Internet chat session to help you find data on the Gateway.com technical support Web site. If the assistants cannot direct you to the solution on the technical support site, they will refer you to the area or department that can.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml">www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml</a> -OR- HelpSpot
E-mail Tech Support	Get the answers to your technical inquiries by e-mail from a Gateway technical support professional.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml">www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml</a>
E-mail a Friend	Send a link for the Web page you are currently viewing on the Gateway Web site to anyone in the world with an e-mail address.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml">www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml</a>
Frequently Asked Questions	Get the answers to many of our most common customer service-related questions.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml">www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml</a>
Chat with Customer Service	Engage in a live Internet chat session with a Gateway Customer Service Assistant about a non-technical issue.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml">www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml</a> -OR- HelpSpot
E-mail Customer Service	Get the answers to your non-technical inquiries by e-mail from a Gateway Customer Service Assistant.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml">www.gateway.com/support/index.shtml</a>

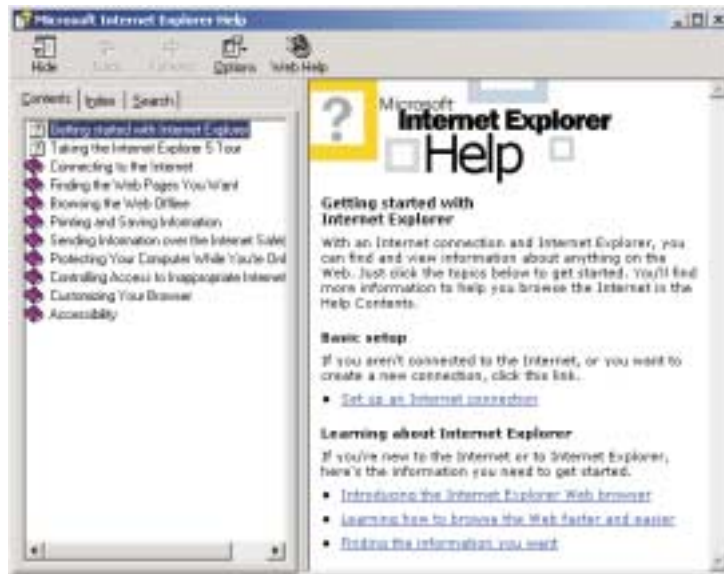
Resource	Service description	Location
Chat with eSales Advisor	Get a personalized look at what system is best suited for your own individual needs. To use this service, fill out the eSales Advisor Questionnaire. The eSales Advisor will contact you by phone and discuss the Gateway solution that best fits you needs.	www.gateway.com -OR- HelpSpot
Order Status	Get information on whether your order has been received, is in production, or has been shipped. You will also be given an estimated or actual shipping date, depending on the status. This information is updated daily and is available 24 to 36 hours after an order is placed.	www.gateway.com

# Online help

Many programs provide information online so you can research a topic or learn how to perform a task while you are using the program. Most online help information can be accessed by selecting a topic from a **Help** menu or by clicking a **Help** button.



You can search for information by viewing the help contents, checking the index, searching for a topic or keyword, or browsing through the online help.



# Telephone support

You can access the following services through your telephone to get answers to your questions:

Resource	Service description	How to reach
Automated troubleshooting system (ATS)	Use an automated menu system and your telephone keypad to find answers to common problems.	800-846-2118 (US) 877-709-2945 (Canada)
Fax on demand support	Order a catalog of documents on common problems, then order documents by document numbers. The documents will be faxed to you.	800-846-4526 (US) 877-709-2951 (Canada)
Gateway's fee-based software tutorial service	Get tutorial assistance for software issues billed by the minute.	800-229-1103 (charged to your credit card) 900-555-4695 (charged to your telephone bill)
Gateway Client Care	Talk to a Gateway Client Care representative about a non-tutorial technical support question. (Refer to "Before calling Gateway technical support" on page 178 before calling.)	800-846-2301 (US) 800-846-3609 (Canada & Puerto Rico) (605) 232-2191 (all other countries) (800) 846-1778 (TDD)
Gateway.net	Get support for your Gateway.net ISP account.	877-247-2051 (US)
AOL	Get support for your AOL ISP account	800-827-6364 (US) 888-265-4357 (Canada)
CompuServe	Get support for your CompuServe ISP account	800-848-8990 (US)
Sales, accounting, and warranty	Get information about available systems, pricing, orders, billing statements, warranty service, or other non-technical issues.	800-846-2000 (US) 888-888-2037 (Canada)



# Before calling Gateway technical support

If you have a technical problem with your computer, follow these recommendations before contacting Gateway technical support:

- Make sure that your computer is connected properly to a grounded AC outlet that is supplying power. If you use a power strip, make sure that it is switched on.
- If a peripheral such as a keyboard or mouse does not appear to work, make sure that all cables are plugged in securely.
- If you have recently installed hardware or software, make sure that you have installed it according to the instructions provided with it. If you did not purchase the hardware or software from Gateway, refer to the manufacturer documentation and technical support resources.
- If you have “how to” questions about using a program, consult:
  - Online Help
  - Printed documentation
  - The Microsoft Windows documentation
  - The software publisher’s Web site
- Consult the troubleshooting chapter of this guide.

## Warning



To avoid bodily injury, do not attempt to troubleshoot your computer problem if:

- Power cords or plugs are damaged
- Liquid has been spilled into your computer
- Your computer was dropped
- The cabinet was damaged

Instead, unplug your computer and contact a qualified computer technician.

- Have your client ID, serial number, and order number available, along with a detailed description of your issue, including the exact text of any error messages, and the steps you have taken.
- Verify that the computer is nearby at the time of your call. The technician may have you follow appropriate troubleshooting steps while on the line.

# Tutoring and training

Gateway's technical support professionals cannot provide hardware and software training or tutorial services. Instead, Gateway recommends the following tutoring and training resources.

## Self-help

If you have *how-to* questions about using your Gateway-supplied hardware or software, consult the following resources:

- The printed or online manual that came with your hardware or software. In many cases, additional product information and online manuals for Gateway-supplied hardware can be found in our Web site's Documentation Library.
- The User's Guide that shipped with your computer.
- The software publisher's Web site.

## Tutoring

For help on using hardware or software that came with your Gateway computer, contact Gateway's fee-based tutorial hotline:

- (800) 229-1103 (rate charged per minute; charged to a major credit card.)
- (900) 555-4695 (rate charged per minute; charged to your telephone bill.)

# Training

Gateway provides the following in-person and computerized training:

Resource	Service description	For more information
In-Store Training at Gateway Country stores	Our friendly and knowledgeable software trainers can teach you how to use the Internet and the most popular software programs, including Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/about/country/softwaretraining.shtml">www.gateway.com/about/country/softwaretraining.shtml</a>
Gateway CD-ROM Learning Libraries	A variety of courses and tutorials are available on CD-ROM. Select from several easy-to-use learning libraries.	<a href="http://www.gateway.com/software/training/learning_library.shtml">www.gateway.com/software/training/learning_library.shtml</a>
Online Training from Learn@Gateway	More than 450 online courses are available from Learn@Gateway. All you have to do is go online and log in. You select the subject matter, and the learning format (self-paced tutorials or virtual classrooms), all from the comfort of your computer.	<a href="http://www.learnatgateway.com/">www.learnatgateway.com/</a>

# Safety, Regulatory, and Legal Information



## Important safety information

Your Gateway system is designed and tested to meet the latest standards for safety of information technology equipment. However, to ensure safe use of this product, it is important that the safety instructions marked on the product and in the documentation are followed.

### Warning



Always follow these instructions to help guard against personal injury and damage to your Gateway system.

### Setting up your system

- Read and follow all instructions marked on the product and in the documentation before you operate your system. Retain all safety and operating instructions for future use.
- Do not use this product near water or a heat source such as a radiator.
- Set up the system on a stable work surface.
- The product should be operated only from the type of power source indicated on the rating label.
- If your computer has a voltage selector switch, make sure that the switch is in the proper position for your area. The voltage selector switch is set at the factory to the correct voltage.
- Openings in the computer case are provided for ventilation. Do not block or cover these openings. Make sure you provide adequate space, at least 6 inches (15 cm), around the system for ventilation when you set up your work area. Never insert objects of any kind into the computer ventilation openings.
- Some products are equipped with a three-wire power cord to make sure that the product is properly grounded when in use. The plug on this cord will fit only into a grounding-type outlet. This is a safety feature. If you are unable to insert the plug into an outlet, contact an electrician to install the appropriate outlet.
- If you use an extension cord with this system, make sure that the total ampere rating on the products plugged into the extension cord does not exceed the extension cord ampere rating.

- If your system is fitted with a TV Tuner, cable, or satellite receiver card, make sure that the antenna or cable system is electrically grounded to provide some protection against voltage surges and buildup of static charges.

### Care during use

- Do not walk on the power cord or allow anything to rest on it.
- Do not spill anything on the system. The best way to avoid spills is to avoid eating and drinking near your system.
- Some products have a replaceable CMOS battery on the system board. There is a danger of explosion if the CMOS battery is replaced incorrectly. Replace the battery with the same or equivalent type recommended by the manufacturer. Dispose of batteries according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- When the computer is turned off, a small amount of electrical current still flows through the computer. To avoid electrical shock, always unplug all power cables and modem cables from the wall outlets before cleaning the system.
- Unplug the system from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified personnel if:
  - The power cord or plug is damaged.
  - Liquid has been spilled into the system.
  - The system does not operate properly when the operating instructions are followed.
  - The system was dropped or the cabinet is damaged.
  - The system performance changes.

### Replacement parts and accessories

Use only replacement parts and accessories recommended by Gateway.

#### Important



Do not use Gateway products in areas classified as hazardous locations. Such areas include patient care areas of medical and dental facilities, oxygen-laden environments, or industrial facilities.

#### Caution



To reduce the risk of fire, use only No. 26 AWG or larger telecommunications line cord.

# Regulatory compliance statements

## United States users

### FCC Part 15

This device has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio or television reception. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio and television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

**Compliance Accessories:** The accessories associated with this equipment are: shielded video cable. These accessories are required to be used in order to ensure compliance with FCC rules.

### Declaration of conformity

**Responsible party:**

Gateway Companies, Inc.  
610 Gateway Drive, North Sioux City, SD 57049  
(605) 232-2000 Fax: (605) 232-2023

**Product:**

- Solo 1150

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation of this product is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

**Caution**



Changes or modifications not expressly approved by Gateway could void the FCC compliance and negate your authority to operate the product.

### FCC part 68 (applicable to products fitted with USA modems)

Your modem complies with Part 68 of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules. On the computer or modem card is a label that contains the FCC registration number and Ringer Equivalence Number (REN) for this device. If requested, this information must be provided to the telephone company.

An FCC-compliant telephone line cord with a modular plug is required for use with this device. The modem is designed to be connected to the telephone network or premises wiring using a compatible modular jack which is Part 68-compliant. See installation instructions for details.

The Ringer Equivalence Number (REN) is used to determine the number of devices which may be connected to the telephone line. Excessive RENs on a telephone line may result in the devices not ringing in response to an incoming call. In most areas, the sum of RENs should not exceed five (5.0). To be certain of the number of devices that may be connected to a line, as determined by the total RENs, contact the local telephone company.

If this device causes harm to the telephone network, the telephone company will notify you in advance that temporary discontinuance of service may be required. The telephone company may request that you disconnect the equipment until the problem is resolved.

The telephone company may make changes in its facilities, equipment, operations, or procedures that could affect the operation of this equipment. If this happens the telephone company will provide advance notice in order for you to make necessary modifications to maintain uninterrupted service.

This equipment cannot be used on telephone company-provided coin service. Connection to party line service is subject to state tariffs. Contact the state public utility commission or public service commission for information.

When programming or making test calls to emergency numbers:

- Remain on the line and briefly explain to the dispatcher the reason for the call.
- Perform such activities in the off-peak hours such as early morning or late evenings.

The United States Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991 makes it unlawful for any person to use a computer or other electronic device to send any message via a telephone fax machine unless such message clearly contains, in a margin at the top or bottom of each transmitted page or on the first page of the transmission, the date and time it is sent, an identification of the business, other entity, or other individual sending the message, and the telephone number of the sending machine or such business, other entity, or individual. Refer to your fax communication software documentation for details on how to comply with the fax-branding requirement.

# Canadian users

## ICES-003

This digital apparatus does not exceed the Class B limits for radio noise emissions from digital apparatus as set out in the radio interference regulations of Industry Canada.

Le présent appareil numérique n'émet pas de bruits radioélectriques dépassant les limites applicables aux appareils numériques de Classe B prescrites dans le règlement sur le brouillage radioélectrique édicté par Industrie Canada.

## DOC notice (for products fitted with an IC-compliant modem)

The Industry Canada label identifies certified equipment. This certification means that the equipment meets certain telecommunications network protective, operation, and safety requirements. The Department does not guarantee the equipment will operate to the users' satisfaction.

Before installing this equipment, users should make sure that it is permissible to be connected to the facilities of the local telecommunications company. The equipment must also be installed using an acceptable method of connection. In some cases, the inside wiring associated with a single-line individual service may be extended by means of a certified connector assembly. The customer should be aware that compliance with the above conditions may not prevent degradation of service in some situations.

Repairs to certified equipment should be made by an authorized Canadian maintenance facility designated by the supplier. Any repairs or alterations made by the user to this equipment, or equipment malfunctions, may give the telecommunications company cause to request the user to disconnect the equipment.

Users should make sure for their own protection that the electrical ground connections of the power utility, telephone lines, and internal metallic water pipe system, if present, are connected together. This precaution may be particularly important in rural areas.

### Warning




To avoid electrical shock or equipment malfunction do not attempt to make electrical ground connections by yourself. Contact the appropriate inspection authority or an electrician, as appropriate.

The **Ringer Equivalence Number** (REN) assigned to each terminal device provides an indication of the maximum number of terminals allowed to be connected to a telephone interface. The termination on an interface may consist of any combination of devices subject only to the requirement that the sum of the Ringer Equivalence Numbers of all the devices does not exceed 5.



# European users


The following information is only applicable to systems labeled with the CE mark .

## European directives

This Information Technology Equipment has been tested and found to comply with the following European directives:

- EMC Directive 89/336/EEC amending directive 92/31/EEC & 93/68/EEC as per
  - EN 55022:1998 Class B
  - EN 61000-3-2:1995
  - EN 61000-3-3:1995
  - EN 50024:1998 according to:
    - EN 61000-4-2:1995
    - EN 61000-4-3:1996
    - EN 61000-4-4:1995
    - EN 61000-4-5:1995
    - EN 61000-4-6:1996
    - EN 61000-4-8:1993
    - EN 61000-4-11:1994
- Low Voltage Directive (Safety) 73/23/EEC as per EN 60950:1992(A1/A2/A3/A4/A11)

## European telecommunication information (for products fitted with EU-approved modems)

Marking by the symbol  indicates compliance of this equipment to the Radio and Telecom Terminal Equipment Directive 199/S/EC. Such marking is indicative that this equipment meets or exceeds the following technical standards:

CTR 21 (1998) - Attachment requirements for pan-European approval for connection to the analogue Public Switched Telephone Networks (PSTNs) of TE (excluding TE supporting voice telephony services) in which network addressing, if provided, is by means of Dual Tone Multi-Frequency (DTMF) signaling.

### Warning



Although this equipment can use either loop disconnect (pulse) or DTMF (tone) signaling, only the performance of the DTMF signaling is subject to regulatory requirements for correct operation. It is therefore strongly recommended that the equipment is set to use DTMF signaling for access to public or private emergency services. DTMF signaling also provides faster call setup.

This equipment has been approved to Council Decision 98/482/EEC—"CTR 21" for Pan-European single terminal connection to the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN). However, due to differences between the individual PSTNs provided in different countries, the approval does not, of itself, give an unconditional assurance of successful operation on every PSTN termination point. In the event of problems, you should contact Gateway customer support.

# Japanese users

## VCCI statement

This equipment is in the Class B category (Information Technology Equipment to be used in a residential area or an adjacent area thereto) and conforms to the standards set by the Voluntary Control Council for Interference by Information Technology Equipment aimed at preventing radio interference in such residential areas. When used near a radio or TV receiver, it may become the cause of radio interference. Read instructions for correct handling.

### 電波障害について

この装置は、情報処理装置等電波障害自主規制協議会（VCCI）の基準に基づくクラスB情報技術装置です。この装置は、家庭環境で使用することを目的としていますが、この装置がラジオやテレビジョン受信機に近接して使用されると、受信障害を引き起こすことがあります。

取扱説明書に従って正しい取り扱いをして下さい。

# Australia and New Zealand users

## EMI statement

This device has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to the Australian/New Zealand standard AS/NZS 3548 set out by the Australian Communications Authority and Radio Spectrum Management Agency.

## New Zealand telecommunication statement (for products fitted with Telepermit-approved modems)

The grant of a Telepermit for any item of terminal equipment indicates only that Telecom has accepted that the item complies with minimum conditions for connection to its network. It indicates no endorsement of the product by Telecom, nor does it provide any sort of warranty. Above all, it provides no assurance that any item will work correctly in all respects with another item of Telepermitted equipment of a different make or model, nor does it imply that any product is compatible with all of Telecom's network services.

This equipment shall not be set up to make automatic calls to the Telecom '111' Emergency Service.

### Important



Under power failure conditions, this telephone may not operate. Make sure that a separate telephone, not dependent on local power, is available for emergency use.

Some parameters required for compliance with Telecom's Telepermit requirements are dependent on the equipment (PC) associated with this device. The associated equipment shall be set to operate within the following limits for compliance with Telecom's specifications:

- (a) There shall be no more than 10 calls to the same number within any 30-minute period for any single manual call initiation, and
- (b) The equipment shall go on-hook for a period of not less than 30 seconds between the end of one attempt and the beginning of the next attempt.

The equipment shall be set to make sure that automatic calls to different numbers are spaced such that there is no less than 5 seconds between the end of one call attempt and the beginning of another.

The equipment shall be set to make sure that calls are answered between 3 and 30 seconds of receipt of ringing.

# Laser safety statement

All Gateway systems equipped with CD and DVD drives comply with the appropriate safety standards, including IEC 825. The laser devices in these components are classified as “Class 1 Laser Products” under a US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Radiation Performance Standard. Should the unit ever need servicing, contact an authorized service location.

## Warning



Use of controls or adjustments or performance of procedures other than those specified in this manual may result in hazardous radiation exposure. To prevent exposure to laser beams, do not try to open the enclosure of a CD or DVD drive.

# Notices

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San Diego, CA 92121 USA

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**If your computer has a DVD drive and an analog TV Out port, the following paragraph applies:**

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